FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT CHAIRS PALESTINIAN SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL

JN191657 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, chaired a meeting today of the Palestinian Supreme Military Council. Representatives of all the revolution's factions attended.

The council members discussed all aspects of the military situation in southern Lebanon and the noteworthy Israeli-isolationist escalation of tension. Our correspondent has learned that the council adopted several measures and resolutions to confront the situation and to face all possible developments.

SALAH KHALAF COMMENTS ON ROLE OF 'MODERATE' STATES

LD201023 London THE GUARDIAN in English 20 Apr 79 p 7 LD

[David Hirst interview with Fatah's second-in-command Abu Iyad, in Beirut: "Call to Arms"; date not given]

[Text] Much attention has been paid in recent weeks to the role which the so-called "moderate" Arab states, Saudi Arabia and Jordan, can play in making or breaking the Israeli-Egyptian separate peace. But the Palestinian resistance movement is showing growing signs of impatience with the so-called "radical" or "progressive" states.

In an interview with THE GUARDIAN, Abu Iyad, the Fatah second-in-command, called on such countries as Syria, Iraq, Libya, and Algeria to take the lead in striking at American interests--thereby setting the example for Saudi Arabia--to forge an alliance with the Soviet Union, and to heat up the military situation on Israel's eastern front.

He had no doubt, he said, that the Egyptian people would eventually bring As-Sadat's regime down, but he did not foresee that happening for the time being. On the contrary, if the other Arab states did not rise to the challenge, things would continue to go As-Sadat's way. Within six months, he believed, there would "be changes in Arab countries--not necessarily in Egypt."

As-Sadat was exploiting Egyptian chauvinism. "By their nature the Egyptians dislike the Arabs. As-Sadat knows his people. Hassan used to curse the Arabs from a patriotic standpoint. As-Sadat curses them from a treasonable standpoint. But still the Egyptians applaud. When As-Sadat gave a big party for the wedding of his daughter, that angered the Egyptians more than his selling the whole of Sinai."

Furthermore, in spite of the blow which Saudi Arabia had delivered to America at the Baghdad conference, the tide could sitll turn in its favour.

It was true, he said, that events in Iran and American Middle East policies had pushed pro-American regimes into a corner, and that, as a result the Palestinians were now, in a sense, stronger than ever before.

But, he went on, "no one can imagine how the regimes are fighting us. If I say that we are besieged, it does not mean that we are weak. We must do something to break the siege. As-Sadat is a coward. I know him. He can do what he is doing because the Americans have, in effect, put a map of the Arab world in front of him, showing him where all their 'agents' are.

"That is how they pushed him down the path. For it is a hard path and As-Sadat likes things easy.

In a dig at the well-known ambivalence of countries like Iraq he warned: "It is not enough to have one foot with the Soviet Union, the other with the Americans, to be against the treaty, but do nothing about it. Syria and Iraq must act. They must act militarily.

"It does not have to be a war. There are many possibilities. It could be a war of attrition. So that As-Sadat is embarrassed before the Egyptians and the world. As-Sadat claims that the decision for war and peace is in Egypt's hands. We must disprove this.

"We did an operation in Tel Aviv, but the Israeli counter-strike came in south Lebanon. The other Arabs must take their share of responsibilities. They must open up their frontiers to guerrilla operations. We have repeatedly asked them to. They all say yes--then nothing happens."

As for the Syrians, perhaps the most exposed to an Israeli strike, Abu Iyad said that they "should enter into an alliance with the Soviet Union. I keep telling them that. Then the Israelis would never dare attack."

VOP ON HADDAD'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION IN LEBANON

JN191536 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1100 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The traitor Sa'd Haddad has declared his formidable state, he has carried out his threats to isolate the areas under his control from the Lebanese state. At last, Israel has realized its dream. It is no longer alone in our Arab region. It is true that Haddad's forces have created an entity dissociated from the state [words indistinct]. It is true that the area has removed the signs marking the border with the Zionist entity through what was called the good fence. It is true that this Haddad and others are carrying out the Zionist and imperialist orders in a very honest way. But the Zionist enemy wants more than that. He wants a title for a sectarian ministate that will justify the Israeli presence in the region. The Zionist enemy has not been able to declare the Maronite state despite U.S. imperialist support. Israel and the isolationists have carried out their threats in declaring their state in the border areas. It is the first step toward the creation of another Israel in the Arab region.

Haddad's declaration was issued directly after consultations and lengthy meetings with the Zionist leaders. The latest meeting took place on the day before yesterday with the Israeli minister of war, Ezer Weizman. The meeting was followed by a series of threats by Haddad challenging the Lebanese Government. The threat took the form of armed clashes and continuous shelling of the places where the Lebanese Army troops moving to the south passed.

Those who are following the drama understand that Haddad and his clique have not even had a part in directing the play. The traitor Haddad is only the executive arm for the Lebanese isolationist front, which backed his existence and threatened the government if it were to confront him or expel him from the army. The declaration of the ministate is aimed at Syria as well as at the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian revolution. Thus, Syria's flank will be exposed to those enemies. The declaration of the ministate comes in execution of the U.S. threat that it will create trouble for the Palestinian revolution and its leader. But the Palestinian revolution knows how to confront and to defeat conspiracies.

Now what is needed is a clear, firm and strict Arab stand toward this new treason. As-Sadat has declared his treason and has thrown himself into the lap of imperialism and Zionism. Fearing no one and uncaring about the fate of his people and nation, he has not yet received any painful blows equal to the weight of his treason. This has permitted Haddad to plunge into treason and to declare his sectarian-Zionist ministate.

Now what is needed, at a time when we are issuing statements against As-Sadat's and Haddad's treason, is a stand of deterrence, or else the Zionist entity will divide the Arab region piece by piece. [passage indistinct]

'ARAFAT CABLES CONGRATULATIONS TO BREZHNEV ON REELECTION

JN200824 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text of 19 April cable of congratulations from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Leonid Brezhnev on his reelection as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium]

[Text] Comrade Chairman Leonid Brezhnev, revolutionary greetings: On behalf of my brother members of the PLO Executive Committee and in my own name, it gives me pleasure to congratulate you on your unanimous reelection as chairman of the Presidium of the friendly USSR Supreme Soviet.

This confidence in your cherished person is a unanimous expression of confidence in the Soviet Union's policy in support for the struggles of peoples and national liberation movements [words indistinct] the Palestinian people's and the Arab nation's just struggle against U.S. imperialism, the Zionist aggressors, and the traitors and agents who are conspiring and distorting the facts to world public opinion. These people claim that they have brought about a peaceful agreement, whereas in fact, by concluding such an agreement at the expense of the Palestinian and Arab nation, they are blocking the road to a just and lasting peace. Through this agreement, they are trying to entrench U.S. imperialist hegemony and Zionist occupation, to bypass all resolutions of international bodies and to ignore our people's historic rights.

Comrade Chairman, I take the opportunity of your reelection to stress to you that we are confident that the relations of solidarity and cohesion between the struggle of the Arab and Palestinian masses and the various forces of progress, peace and socialism--headed by the friendly Soviet Union--will further develop and (?thwart) all the machinations of the forces of imperialism, fascism and racist Zionism in our area. This solidarity and cohesion will strengthen the struggle of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the PLO, for their historic and inalienable right to return, self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their soil.

We reiterate our heartfelt congratulations and [words indistinct] renewing the pledge to forge ahead with the revolution until victory.

KUWAIT

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM CALLS ON KHOMEYNI TO STOP EXECUTIONS

LD190947 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 17 Apr 79 p 1 LD

['Abd al-'Aziz al-Masa'id "Open Letter to Ayatollah Khomeyni"]

[Excerpts] With the same passion with which we supported and still support Ayatollah Khomeyni's revolution and out of our great appreciation for this great leader of the Iranian revolution, we appeal to him to order a halt to this terrible chain of executions. This appeal is not on behalf of those whose loyalty is in doubt or those who were among the shah's men, but on behalf of the imam's revolution and this nascent republic that bears the name of Islam and which has come in order to implement Islam in spirit as well as in letter.

It is exactly for this reason we make this appeal. We feel that it is our duty to be frank with you, to say that what is happening now in Iran has gone beyond reason. Those who are lying in wait for your revolution, ayatollah, are not dormant and will not give up waiting for the opportune moment to pounce on it or distort its image.

We are confident that you do not want the face of the Iranian Islamic Republic disfigured or smeared with blood. No price for the pure blood that was shed in the revolution should be sought through the young militia or the armed groups who, because of the overwhelming influence of the power of arms, are bound to turn into bloodthirsty squads. We believe that the Iranian revolution should not be left in the hands of young zealots or those who have infiltrated the revolution's ranks--who are certainly communists--for it is too great to let it be influenced by such people.

You are aware, your eminence the imam, that Islam is our everlasting bastion. We believe that what is happening now is harmful to this great bastion and undermines the hopes that have grown with the birth of a new iran.

Therefore, we say frankly and out of love that such actions are harmful to Islam and could be used in the vicious psychological warfare against Islam and Arabism in order to destroy all our hopes.

Islam, your eminence the imam, is an example and a practice. So let the great prophet be our greatest example.

QATAR

HADDAD'S SEPARATIST MOVEMENT DENOUNCED AS BETRAYAL

NC201004 Doha QNA in Arabic 0850 GMT 20 Apr 79 NC

[Text of 20 April statement to QNA by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani]

[Text] Doha, 20 April--Qatar strongly denounces the rebellious separatist movement in southern Lebanon led by Maj Sa'd Haddad and considers his wicked attempt, in collusion with the Zionist enemy, to establish the so-called "free and independent state of Lebanon" as a blatant betrayal of his country aimed at partitioning it and fragmenting its unity, and consequently greatly endangering the safety of Lebanon and the entire Arab homeland.

Qatar stands by the side of the Lebanese people and supports the efforts to unify their ranks and firmly eliminate this criminal and frivolous act. Qatar also reaffirms its support for legality in Lebanon and believes that the duty of maintaining the peace and security of the entire region requires that all Arab and international efforts be rallied to safeguard Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity and protect its unity and independence.

SAUDI ARABIA

HADDAD'S SECESSION ATTEMPT IN LEBANON DENOUNCED

LD192234 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Station Commentary]

[Excerpt] The commander of the Phalangist militia forces in rebellion against the Lebanese Government proclaimed yesterday evening the secession of the area under the control of his forces, a move he termed as independence from the legitimate authority in Beirut.

The proclamation by the commander of the forces of the secessionist militia of the independence of the area that has been under his control for some 3 years now comes as no surprise. All indications were that his positions would in the end lead him to this foolish, shortsighted move, which is far from being a gain. On the contrary, it is the beginning of the end of rebellion and lawlessness.

It suffices to note that this move has not been denounced by Lebanon alone but by the entire international community, which has voiced its reprobation of this irresponsible act, which constitutes a threat to the security and peace of Lebanon. The entire world ought to reject it and strike with an iron fist at he who has committed it in total disregard of the homeland and its legitimate government.

The move taken by the commander of the rebel forces in southern Lebanon constitutes a fresh obstacle to the efforts of the Lebanese Government to extend its authority to all the regions of the homeland; on the other hand, it fails to convince any section of the Lebanese people because the Lebanese people strongly reject the partition of their homeland.

YEMEN--PDRY

'ABD AL-FATTAH ISMA'IL, SOVIET AMBASSADOR VISIT SCHOOL

LD171744 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Apr 79 LD/EA

[Summary] 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, this morning inspected the new building of the Higher School of Scientific Socialism, accompanied by Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, minister of installations, and Comrade Felix Fedotov, Soviet ambassador to Aden. He also met the workers who are building the school under the supervision of Soviet experts. Speaking to the workers, Isma'il praised their efforts to complete the project in its fixed time.

"Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il expressed deep thanks to the CPSU and its Central Commitee, the Soviet people and the Soviet experts for their assistance in implementing this and many other projects. The brother secretary general described the project as being among the greatest gains achieved by the revolution. He added that it will have a great role in the future not only for YSP cadres, but also for all the cadres of the Arab national liberation movement in particular, and the world in general. The brother secretary general said that this great work would not have been possible without the CPSU, which presented this great gift as a symbol of the bonds of intimate friendship between the CPSU and the YSP."

YEMEN--YAR

PDRY CONSTITUTIONAL DELEGATION ARRIVES IN SAN'A'

LD191518 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD/EA

[Summary] PDRY members of the Joint Constitutional Committee, led by 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Legal Committee, arrived in San'a' this morning representing the northern side in the Joint Constitutional Committee.

REPORTAGE ON REFERENDUM VOTE 19 APRIL

As-Sadat Casts Vote

NC191318 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Excerpts] The referendum committees in all the republic's governorates have witnessed a great response by the citizens in voting on the Eygptian-Israeli peace treaty and on the nine principles aimed at rebuilding the state--the principles which were expressed by President as-Sadat in his recent statement. President as-Sadat has cast his vote in his village, Mit Abu al-Kawm.

Preliminary Results

NC192326 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2255 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 April--The preliminary results of today's referendum on the peace treaty and its annexes, the dissolution of the People's Assembly, and the nine principles declared by President Anwar as-Sadat for the reorganization of the state indicate a unanimous, sweeping majority approval. The percentage of some of the results so far received by the main operations room in the Interior Ministry is 100 percent in favor. A total of 20,350 citizens in the town of Banha, 38,169 citizens in Marsa Matruh and 24,577 citizens in Al-Abakiyah district of Cairo voted in favor of the entire ticket--100 percent.

A total of 45,852 citizens in Rawd al-Faraj police section in Cairo representing 98.9 percent voted in favor of the entire ticket. A total of 471 citizens voted against.

In Damanhur, 29,500 citizens--representing 99.9 percent voted in favor and 7 citizens voted against.

In 'Ataqah police section in Suez, 32,098 citizens representing 99.43 percent voted in favor and 19 citizens voted against. In Sawhaj police section, 23,025 citizens representing 99.9 percent voted in favor. Only two voted against.

In the Talkha police section in Ad-Daqahliyah Governorate, 91,685 representing 99.9 percent voted in favor. A total of four voted against.

In the Al-Khalifah police section in Cairo, a total of 40,835 citizens voted in favor of the whole list. A total of 38 citizens voted against. In the As-Sahil section, 105,757 citizens voted in favor of the first item; 100 citizens voted against; 105,457 citizens voted in favor of the second item and 400 citizens voted against.

In 'Abidin section, 35,830 citizens voted in favor of the first item, and 46 voted against; 35,842 voted in favor of the second item and 34 voted against. In Al-Hawamidiyah section in Al-Muizah, 15,108 citizens representing 93.9 percent voted in favor of the whole ticket. Two voted against. In Tahta section of Sawhaj, 53,568 representing 99.9 percent voted in favor of the whole ticket while 3 voted against. In Ash-Shuhada section in Al-Manufiyah, 46,043 representing 100 percent voted in favor of the whole ticket. In Kafr Shukr center in Al-Qalyubiyah Governorate, 46,528 voted in favor of the entire ticket; 13 voted against.

In Alexandria, the results of the refereundum in the various committees in the Alexandria Governorate point to the citizens' absolute support for the peace treaty and the deepening of democracy. The percentage of those who voted in favor of the peace treaty in the Ar-Raml, Al-'Attarin and Al-Manshiyah constituencies was 99.9 percent; 99.8 percent in Al-'Amiraiyah, Bab Sharqi, Al-Numruk and Muharram Bayk and 99.7 in Ad-Dikhaylah and Minya al-Basal constitutencies.

The percentage of those who voted yes on the peace treaty in Karmuz was 99.5 percent; 99.4 percent in Al-Labban constituency and 99 percent in Sidi Jabir constituency.

As for the referendum on the dissolution of the People's Assembly and the reorganization of the state and the deepening of democracy, the percentage of those who voted yes was 99.8 percent in Al-Manshiyah, Al-Jumruk and Al-'Amiriyah constituencies; 99.7 percent in Ar-Raml constituency; 99.6 percent in Muharram Bayk and Al-Labban constituencies; 99.5 percent in Bab Shariqi and Minya al-Basal; 99.4 percent in Ad-Dikhaylah constituency; 99.2 percent in Karmuz constituency; 99 percent in Al-'Attarin constituency and 97 percent in Sidi Jabir constituency.

Thus, the results of the referendum have been announced in all the constituencies in Alexandria Governorate except the constituency of Al-Muntazah section, where the sorting of votes in the subcommittees is continuing.

In Qattur constituency in Al-Gharbiyah Govenorate, 47,742 citizens representing 99.9 percent voted in favor of the treaty; 4 voted against. A total of 47,707 citizens representing 99.99 percent voted in favor of the second item in the ticket; 29 voted against. In As-Sayyidah Zaynab constituency in Cairo, 56,528 citizens representing 99.67 percent voted in favor of the treaty; 186 voted against. A total of 56,272 representing 99.23 percent voted in favor of the second item in the ticket; 432 voted against. In Hada'iq al-Qubba section in Cairo, 32,443 citizens representing 99.55 percent voted yes on the first item and 148 voted no. A total of 32,376 representing 99.34 percent voted yes and 215 voted no on the second item on the ticket.

In Nasir section in Aswan Governorate, 42,900 citizens representing 100 percent voted in favor of the whole ticket.

The operations center in the Interior Ministry is continuing to receive the final results of the referendum from the various governorates. The sorting of the votes is expected to be completed tomorrow morning. Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il will announce the final results at a press conference tomorrow at noon.

Final Results

NC201334 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Apr 79 NC

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat performed Friday prayers today amid the citizens of his village of Mit Abu al-Kawm. Attending the prayers with President as-Sadat were Vice President Husni Mubarak; doyen of engineers and superintendent of the food security projects 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman; Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il; Governor of Al-Minufiyah Maj Gen Mahmud Mahrus Abu Husayn; and the executive, political and popular leaders in the governorate. After the prayers, President as-Sadat left for the construction site of the new village, where he inspected the new houses that have been built.

Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il then announced the results of the referendum on the peace treaty, the dissolution of the People's Assembly and the reorganization of the state.

He said that the results of the referendum on the peace treaty, its annexes and the agreement on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza are as follows:

Out of 10,998,675 registered voters, 9,920,260 actually voted. There were 9,634 invalid votes. There were 9,905,380 votes for, and 5,246 votes against--99.95 percent voting in favor.

The results of the referendum on the dissolution of the People's Assembly and the bases for the reorganization of the state are as follows:

Out of 10,998,675 registered voters, 9,920,260 actually voted. There were 9,910,488 valid votes, with 9,772 invalid votes. There were 9,900,271 votes for, and 10,217 votes against--99.9 percent voting in favor.

After announcing the results of the referendum, the interior minister delivered a speech before President Anwar as-Sadat in which he said: Congratulations to you, Mr President, to the Egyptian people and to all of us. The great and overwhelming result reflects the Egyptian people's unanimous approval of the president and leader in his journey for peace, prosperity and democracy. May God protect Egypt, its people and its leader.

FOREIGN UNDER SECRETARY TO EXCHANGE TREATY DOCUMENTS

NC200614 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2345 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 April--Sa'd 'Afrah, under secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, will head the Egyptian delegation to the ceremony at which the ratification documents of the peace treaty with Israel will be exchanged at 1430 on Wednesday in Umm Khushayb in Sinai.

The Egyptian delegation to the ceremony has been formed in light of the composition of the Israeli delegation, which will be headed by El'yahu Ben-Elisar, director of the office of Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

DPA REPORTS BOMB EXPLOSION IN CAIRO POST OFFICE

NC191450 Cairo DPA in Arabic 1430 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 April--A woman was killed and at least four people were wounded when a parcel exploded in the general post office in Cairo today. Police have cordoned off the area and begun investigations to determine the source of the parcel.

Workers at the post office said the explosion occurred in the room where parcels from the Arab states are usually handled. They also said that the dead woman, a mother of two, was killed when she was sorting a parcel received from Syria.

It was not immediately clear how many persons were in the room when the explosion occurred, although most eyewitnesses agree that in addition to the dead woman, who was beheaded by the explosion, three women and one man were wounded.

Girls working in the parcels office have stated that their superiors had warned them several days ago about the possibility of boobytrapped letters and parcels from the Arab rejection front states.

INA: NATIONAL COUNCIL REFUSES TO SUPPORT PEACE TREATY

JN191200 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 19 April--The members of the Egyptian National Cultural Council have rejected a request by council chairman 'Abd al-Qadir Hatim to issue a statement supporting the traitorous treaty between As-Sadat and the Zionist enemy. Reports say that the council's members denounced the traitorous treaty. Dr 'Ishah 'Abd ar-Rahman, alias Bint ash-Shati', condemned the As-Sadat information media's efforts to slander and distort the stand of those who reject the traitorous capitulatory treaty.

INA: UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS TO BE AUTHORIZED TO USE FORCE

JN191259 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1207 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 19 April--Sources of the Egyptian national movement have stated that large-scale powers will be given to the presidents of the Egyptian universities to expel students and to use force and open fire on them.

These sources say that the university administrations will replace the Higher Education Ministry which will be deactivated. So-called university guards are to be formed. These sources say that the Egyptian regime is drafting a new law which outlines methods to control the universities. Egyptian universities have been the scene of boisterous demonstrations during the past few weeks in protest against the traitorous treaty between As-Sadat and the Zionist enemy.

AR-RA'Y: PALESTINIANS PRESSURED TO SUPPORT TREATY

JN200848 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Apr 79 p 1 JN

[AR-RA'Y exclusive]

[Text] Cairo--The Egyptian security authorities have told all Palestinians who have commercial interests in Egypt that strict measures will be taken against them unless they support the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. These measures include the confiscation of their property and funds and the cancellation of all their privileges and rights in Egypt.

The Egyptian authorities summoned the wealthiest Palestinian merchants and requested that they publish advertisements in Egyptian newspapers supporting As-Sadat.

In Cairo alone Palestinians have 20 commercial companies with a capital of 65 million pounds, 1,200 export and import offices, and many department stores in the best sections of town.

Meanwhile, the Egyptian authorities have also threatened to expel some 12,000 Palestinian students studying at Egyptian universities and institutes unless they declare in writing their support for As-Sadat's steps.

The Egyptian authorities have also made a count of the apartments owned by Palestinians.

AL-AKHBAR ON AIM OF REFERENDUM, FOREIGN PRESS

NC200824 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 20 Apr 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] In today's editorial, AL-AKHBAR explains that the result of the referendum was loudly declared by the people yesterday and was seen most magnificently in the huge popular processions that emerged yesterday morning to declare their insistence on peace and democracy and to affirm their adherance to all the referendum principles on reorganization of the state on the bases of full democracy and complete independence. This was the result that had been expected by all the foreign correspondents who watched the people's rush to the ballot boxes, and which was carried by news agencies and radios throughout the day.

AL-AKHBAR adds: However, it appears that some of the foreign correspondents who both confirmed and expected the results before the figures were announced have misinterpreted the aim of the great popular referendum and of the people's declaration contained therein.

The BBC's Cairo correspondent has claimed that President as-Sadat will use the results of the referendum to show his Arab critics the extent of the support he is enjoying in Egypt and to show those who oppose the peace treaty in Egypt and in the Arab countries that the Egyptians want peace. The paper emphasizes that this is a misunderstanding because there is no opposition to the peace treaty in Egypt as 1 or 2 percent cannot be considered to be opposition in either a legal or traditional sense. Furthermore, neither President as-Sadat nor Egypt is concerned about the Arab rejectionists' attacks on Egypt and its regime.

In conclusion the paper affirms that we will definitely achieve our objective under the leadership of this great leader, who has always led us to peace on both the road to war and on the road to peace.

MUSA SABRI ASSAILS AL-QADHDHAFI, OTHER ARAB LEADERS

LD191505 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 15 Apr 79 p 1 LD

[Musa Sabri article: "Disgraceful"]

[Text] The official statement carried by the Libyan news agency regarding the execution of anybody who might disagree with Al-Qadhdhafi is an extremely serious matter. It must be brought up at the democratic discussions that will take place in Egypt on the Egyptian human rights declaration.

Never before has an Arab dictatorship revealed such an ugly face and showed contempt for Arab man and his right to life. Despotic dictatorships usually raise democratic and human rights slogans only to use them as a screen to cover the crimes of coercion and the violation of human rights they perpetrate. This is what the Iraqi Ba'thist regime is doing at present. But what is happening in the Libyan dictatorship is the first of its kind in the postwar dictatorships. Never before has an official statement been issued and carried by a state-controlled news agency announcing that every decision by Al-Qadhdhafi must be obeyed and that he who fails to obey will face execution. These things happened in the dark ages, both before and after Christ, when it cost a ruler nothing to have a man beheaded. But to do this in this era of mankind's liberation only indicates one single fact--that the Libyan ruler has reached such a degree of madness that he should not be allowed to continue.

We do not care if Al-Qadhdhafi remains or disappears on the scrap pile of history. But what concerns us is the world's respect for the Arab society. If the Arab world's destiny has placed Al-Qadhdhafi in the position of ruler of an Arab land and of an Arab people, how is the world to view us while we are demanding the Palestinian people's rights to their homeland? How can it be that one of those making such a demand is a man who declares that he has decided to execute anybody who might disagree with him and that all his decisions must be blindly obeyed? We are not interfering in the domestic affairs of a sisterly country. Those are the Libyan people's own affair. But our national responsibility makes it incumbant upon us to denounce such an audacious crime against Arab humanity. This is a stigma of disgrace on the Arab forehead for all the world's peoples to see.

Is it not our right to regret the miserable state of affairs in some of the Arab regimes? The ruler of Iraq--Saddam Husayn--has threatened that he will kill with his own hands whoever might cooperate with Egypt and the Libyan ruler declared that he will execute anybody who disagrees with him because his orders must be obeyed. The Algerian rulers throw in jail indefinitely and without trial anybody who disagrees with them and the Syrian ruler uses the Syrian Army to kill the Palestinians and Lebanese Muslims and Christians. Yet he declares that he will not withdraw from Lebanon even if a unanimous Arab decision to this effect is taken.

The report about Al-Qadhdhafi's declaration came following a wave of anger that swept through the Libyan people when they found out that Al-Qadhdhafi has sent thousands of soldiers to the Ugandan massacre in order to support the fleeing dictator Idi Amin and that he was forced to pay millions of dollars to secure the release of Libyan prisoners of whom hundreds were killed. After this major catastrophe Al-Qadhdhafi should have confessed to his crime and given up office. Instead, he wants to bring Ugandan-style massacres to Libyan territory. He is threatening to execute whoever dares to open his mouth in order to call him to account for this tragedy. This is indeed a crisis of backwardness and ignorance. It was expected that Egypt should make its decisions conditional upon acceptance by Al-Qadhdhafi, Saddam Husayn and their ilk. What a terrible fate it would be if Egypt's decisions had to be the same as the decisions of those people. The Arab nation must pin back its ears.

OCTOBER: EGYPT WILLING TO HELP ARABS DESPITE STANDS

JN151458 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 15 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Cairo, 15 April--In its issue today, OCTOBER magazine reports that despite the Arab countries' stands toward Egypt, Egypt is always willing to help any fraternal Arab country that asks for Egypt's help. This is in implementation of the charter of Arab solidarity.

Anis Mansur, editor in chief of the magazine, writes an editorial saying that Egypt is prepared to help Sudan tomorrow or the day after tomorrow; to help Kuwait despite the line pursued by its press; to help Saudi Arabia which is being threatened by Hafiz al-Asad [word indistinct]; and to help Oman, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Somalia and the YAR. Anis Mansur pointed out that the Arab nation is afraid of threats and prefers to wait rather than adopt decisions. The Arab nation prefers to fight itself rather than its enemy. He added: Many years have been wasted and others will be wasted so long as we do not find enough courage to announce what we believe in and to defend it until dignified martyrdom.

GOVERNMENT DENOUNCES LIBYAN AGGRESSION AGAINST CHAD

NC191855 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has stated that the Arab Republic of Egypt strongly condemns the recent Libyan armed aggression against northern Chad which led to the occupation of the town of Omchi and the besieging of other Chadian towns by the Libyan forces. The source said that this aggression constitutes a serious violation of the rules of international law. The Foreign Ministry had received the official statement issued by the provisional state council in Chad calling on the United Nations and the OAU and all the African states to stand up against the Libyan aggression to preserve Chad's independence and the unity and safety of its territory.

TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH PRC IN BEIJING

NC192155 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] The 1979 Egyptian-PRC trade exchange agreement was signed in Beijing today. The signing followed the bilateral talks held in the PRC capital between Deputy Minister of State for Economy, Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Yusuf Salah ad-Din 'Abadi and the PRC deputy minister of foreign trade.

MINISTER GHALI RECEIVES ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR

NC191546 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met today with the Romanian ambassador in Cairo. They discussed bilateral relations. It is known that Romanian President Ceausescu is due in Cairo on Wednesday for a visit that will last several hours during which he will discuss with President Anwar as-Sadat current developments in the Middle East and bilateral relations between the two countries.

HOUSING MINISTER LEAVES CAIRO FOR BONN

NC190936 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0735 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 April--Minister of State for Housing Hasan Muhammad as-Sayyid [name as received] left Cairo for Bonn this morning on a 1-week visit to the FRG. During the visit he will hold talks with FRG officials on aspects of cooperation between the two countries in the field of construction with modern building equipment. He will also get acquainted with the latest technological developments in the field of prefabricated houses and iron bars plants.

INFORMATION MINISTER HAMMUDI DENOUNCES HADDAD'S STATE

JN191754 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Iraq has denounced the conspiracy of agent Sa'd Haddad, who proclaimed a secessionist entity on the border strip with occupied Palestine.

In a statement to be published tomorrow in the Lebanese newspaper ASH-SHA'B, Information Minister Qasim Hammudi says that the so-called "Free Lebanon" is nothing but an open declaration of continued Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon. This Zionist occupation, he said, is using the rightist militias as a cover.

The information minister called for foiling this conspiracy by all means, within the framework of a comprehensive Arab confrontation with the schemes of defection and capitulation that some people want to impose on the Arab nation. He said that Sa'd Haddad's crime is the first fruit of the treaty that the traitor As-Sadat signed with the Zionist enemy.

Hammudi said that every honest Lebanese is called upon to affirm his concern for Lebanon's territorial integrity and the sovereignty of its people. He called on the international community and the United Nations to condemn this crime because it infringes on the sovereignty of a member of the international community.

ATH-THAWRAH COMMENTS ON HADDAD'S MINISTATE IN LEBANON

JN191145 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH calls for confronting the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat plot and Sa'd Haddad's crime with all weapons. The paper says that the decisive confrontation has begun.

ATH-THAWRAH describes the ugly crime which Sa'd Haddad has committed in southern Lebanon as the first bitter fruit of As-Sadat's treason. In a major article today, ATH-THAWRAH warns that the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat alliance has begun its offensive against the Arab homeland to perpetuate the traitorous treaty and achieve the criminal aims of spreading domination and influence over the entire area.

ATH-THAWRAH says that imperialism and Zionism have found in Haddad a cheap agent to use as a tool to achieve the old Zionist criminal plan to establish several ministates in the Arab homeland and to fulfill the Zionist ambitions for Litani River water.

ATH-THAWRAH stresses that the confrontation of agent Sa'd Haddad's crime must be viewed from the angle of this crime's link with the traitorous peace treaty, with the Zionist expansionist scheme and with the degree of service to the aims of the new criminal alliance.

ATH-THAWRAH notes that this crime is the first answer given by the new alliance to the Arab nation imposition of sanctions against traitor As-Sadat.

The paper says that how the Arabs handle this reply--whether their response is decisive or hesitating, strong or weak--will determine the quality of the other responses which the Arab nation must consider and prepare so as to safeguard Arab pride and rights with courage and vigilance.

ATH-THAWRAH explains that the responsibility for confronting this crime does not fall on the Lebanese authorities alone or on any single Arab party. It is the responsibility of the entire Arab nation--the Arab masses, revolutionary forces and countries.

ATH-THAWRAH says that imperialism and Zionism have unmasked their aims and the new alliance is beginning to implement its criminal plan step by step. There is no time for anyone to hesitate in the confrontation.

ATH-THAWRAH concludes that agent Haddad's plot is only a part of a greater plot, namely, the traitorous peace treaty. Destroying the result can only be achieved by destroying the source. The paper stresses that the Arab nation is capable of and determined to confront and foil the plot.

CONFERENCE OF ENVOYS TO NONALINED STATES BEGINS

JN191404 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Heads of Iraqi diplomatic missions accredited to the Third World countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America began their conference in Baghdad today. The conference is scheduled to last several days.

At the conference, which was opened by Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, discussion will involve international issues, Iraq's foreign and Arab policies and their effect on developments in the present Arab situation generally and on the Palestinian cause in particular, and the present situation in the nonalined states.

This is the third conference of its kind organized by the Foreign Ministry. Its purpose is to acquaint the heads of Iraqi diplomatic missions with Iraq's stands on political, economic, oil and information affairs, its development plans and the changes that are taking place in various spheres in Iraq.

It is to be recalled that the Foreign Ministry held two similar conferences this year. The first was held last February, when heads of diplomatic missions in European, socialist and North American states, Japan, China and Australia took part. The second conference was held in March and was attended by heads of diplomatic missions in the Arab countries.

GOVERNMENT WILL ASK UNCTAD FOR NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

JN191426 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 19 April--A responsible Iraqi economic source has stated that Iraq will call on the next UNCTAD meeting in Manila to adopt an equitable world economic order that will allow developing countries to achieve comprehensive development.

The source added that Iraq will also ask UNCTAD to establish trade and economic relations among the world's countries based on the principles of equality and mutual interests for developing and industrialized countries.

Iraq participated in the two ministerial meetings of the UNCTAD Asigan group, the first held in Colombo on 8 Jan and the preparatory meeting of the developing countries group of 77 held in (Asrosha) in Tanzania on 16 February 1979. The two meetings were preparatory to the UNCTAD meeting.

PRESIDENT AL-BAKR RECEIVES CUBAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER

JN191217 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1034 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr received here this morning Marcelo Fernandez, envoy of Cuban President Dr Fidel Castro and minister of foreign trade. During the meeting they reviewed relations between the two friendly countries, the means to develop these relations and ways to strengthen the nonalined movement. They also discussed Arab and international issues of mutual interest. Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and the Cuban ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES HUNGARIAN DEPUTY PREMIER SZEKER

JN191201 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf received here today Gyula Szeker, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers and chairman of the Hungarian side to the Iraqi-Hungarian Joint Economic and Technical Committee, and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting they discussed various areas of bilateral cooperation and a current international issues of common concern.

Hammadi-Szeker Meeting

JN191700 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1633 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi met today with Gyula Szeker, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, and his accompanying delegation. They discussed bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them, and the results achieved during Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf's recent visit to Hungary. Gyula Szeker also met with Health Minister Dr Riyad Ibrahim Husayn and Irrigation Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud 'Abdallah. They discussed ways of strengthening bilateral cooperation.

Economic, Technical Protocol Signing

JN191720 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Today Iraq and Hungary signed a protocol for economic and technical cooperation in 1979. The protocol provides for the expansion of bilateral cooperation in trade, agriculture, industry, transport, communications and irrigation. The protocol was signed by Revolution Command Council member Hasan 'Ali and deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers Gyula Szeker, who is currently visiting Iraq.

The signing of the protocol concludes the meetings of the Iraqi-Hungarian Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation, which is chaired by Hasan 'Ali and Gyula Szeker.

CULTURAL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH AFGHANISTAN

JN201052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 20 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 April--An Iraqi cultural delegation returned here this morning at the end of a 5-day visit to Afghanistan. During the visit, the delegation signed a cultural program with Afghanistan for 1979-81. The program provides for exchanging professors, scientific research, athletic and artistic teams, and information delegations, and for providing academic and training scholarships.

FATAH'S ABU MAYZAR ENDS VISIT 19 APRIL

JN191634 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1611 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Muhammad Abu Mayzar, official in charge of foreign relations in Fatah, left Baghdad today at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq. During his visit Abu Mayzar delivered a written message from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Revolution Command Council Deputy Chairman Saddam Husayn on the present Arab situation and the latest developments in the Palestinian cause.

FRENCH AGRICULTURE SECRETARY LEAVES BAGHDAD

JN200958 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 April--Jacques Fouchier, French secretary of state for agriculture, and the delegation accompanying him, left Baghdad this morning at the end of a visit to Iraq which lasted several days. Fouchier said that his visit was successful, fruitful and positive, and that it consolidated the friendship existing between Iraq and France and provided him with the opportunity to become acquainted with several large projects that have been completed in Iraq. Fouchier added that he discussed with officials from the ministries of agriculture and agrarian reform, trade, irrigation, and industry ways to strengthen relations between the two countries. They also discussed questions related to projects being implemented by French companies in Iraq.

IRRIGATION MINISTER 'ABDALLAH LEAVES FOR MEXICO

JN201004 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0910 GMT 20 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 April--Irrigation Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud 'Abdallah left Baghdad for Mexico this morning at the head of a delegation to participate in the meetings of the third international conference on water resources which will begin in Mexico next Monday.

'Abdallah said in a statement that the Iraqi delegation is carrying two research papers on the development of water resources in Iraq since the 17 July revolution and on the new life of the inhabitants of the western desert since the revolution. 'Abdallah added that the delegation will discuss with Mexican officials bilateral cooperation in irrigation and the exchange of expertise and technical know-how between the two countries. 'Abdallah explained that the conference, which will be attended by more than 80 states, will discuss various research papers on modern methods of water resource management and the best ways to use these resources.

'AWDAH CRITICIZES EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI PRESS CAMPAIGN

JN191630 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 19 Apr 79 pp 1, 13 JN

[Text] Amman--Minister of Information 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah has described the suspect information campaign against Jordan as an attempt to harm Jordan's pan-Arab position.

In an exclusive statement to AL-AKHBAR, Abu 'Awdah added that the timing of this campaign, particularly under current circumstances, is intended to shake Jordan's unswerving position on the Middle East issue and the separate peace. He added that this tendentious campaign, led by the Egyptian and Israeli information media, is being carried by some Arab papers which do not verify its veracity. This campaign covers isolated bits of information which Israel and other parties snatch up and magnify to serve their well-known purposes. As an example, the information minister referred to the Jordanian student federation in Lebanon, wgucg was exploited by these parties through the falsification of facts and the presentation of these facts in a way to enhance the results their parties are seeking to achieve.

AR-RA'Y CLAIMS UPPER EGYPT AREA WANTS TO SECEDE

JN200811 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Apr 79 pp 1, 12 JN

[AR-RA'Y exclusive]

[Text] Cairo--An Egyptian security source has declared that the upper Egypt area is requesting secession from As-Sadat's regime and wants to establish an Islamic republic similar to the Iranian republic. The source said that the inhabitants of the major cities in upper Egypt have submitted a memo to the As-Sadat regime requesting secession and threatening to take revolutionary measures to consolidate the Islamic regime in their area. The memo was signed by high-ranking personalities from the cities of Suhaj, Al-Mina and As-yut.

The source explained that within the past few days a large Egyptian force was sent by military trains to the upper Egypt area. The forces stormed and searched hundreds of houses and arrested several personalities in the area. The signs of secession first appeared at Egyptian universities in upper Egypt where students chased professors inside the campuses and threatened to burn the buildings and destroy vital installations in these cities. The Egyptian source said that in an attempt to contain the situation, As-Sadat immediately went to the upper Egypt area when he heard the news about the demands for secession. As-Sadat made a speech to the university professors. The students refused to listen to the speech and held mammoth demonstrations denouncing the capitulatory treaty and the capitulatory steps taken by the ruler of the Egyptian regime. Mammoth popular demonstrations were held and the demonstrators distributed statements hostile to the Egyptian ruler. The statements described the actions taken by As-Sadat as treason. However, during his meeting with the university professors, As-Sadat warned that he had given orders to security men to open fire on anyone who tries to hold demonstrations.

The Egyptian source stressed in conclusion that the upper Egypt area is threatening complete secession from Egypt at any time.

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES CABINET ON RECENT EVENTS

NC191343 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] At 1215, the president of the republic presided over the Cabinet session which was devoted to a discussion of the topics on the agenda. The session lasted until 1400. Afterward, acting Secretary General of the Cabinet Shafiq Munaymih disclosed the following official information:

His excellency the president opened the meeting with a speech dealing with the army's entry into the south and the various related obstacles and difficulties. His excellency briefed the Cabinet on the results of the contacts held with the United Nations and with the states concerned with implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 425, 426 and 444. He also briefed the Cabinet on the positions taken by some quarters which had tried to hamper the army's entry into the south, particularly Israel's position.

His excellency the president added: However, we have informed everyone that we insist on continuing to implement the authority's decision to introduce the army into the south regardless of the possible results in various quarters and sectors of opinion. The army was sent to the south after we intensified our contacts.

God be praised, the army battalion has successfully entered the south, despite the harrassment and artillery shelling to which it was exposed. I want to express my appreciation to those who have worked patiently, sincerely and seriously to insure success for this step. They showed a high sense of responsibility.

It is natural that we thank the sisterly and friendly states and the UN General Secretariat represented by Secretary General Dr Waldheim for having helped the state implement its decision.

His excellency the president then dealt with broadcast and published reports about the so-called republic of Free Lebanon [jumhuriyat Lubnan al-Hurr]. He condemned this treasonous action and expressed confidence that the states of the world will attach no importance to it. In this respect, the president reiterated the statement issued by the president's office on Wednesday evening.

His excellency the president concluded his speech by referring to the Supreme Defense Council session held last Monday evening. It was the first to be held by the council since the new national defense law took effect.

His excellency took this opportunity to express his hope that the implementation of this law will achieve the aspirations the government and the people pin on this law, and that our hoped-for national goals will be achieved, especially the strengthening of the army to enable it to carry out its tasks and discharge its duties in a way that will preserve the territory, people and institutions of the one and unified homeland.

CABINET DISMISSES MAJOR HADDAD FROM ARMY

NC191323 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Upon leaving the presidential palace, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss made the following statement: The Cabinet discussed the new developments in the south and expressed satisfaction with the step taken, represented by the entry of the Lebanese Army into the south. As for the separatist step declared yesterday, it is a treasonous act which all Lebanese condemn. It has been decided to dismiss Sa'd Haddad from military service as punishment for what he has done. This is in addition to the fact that he is wanted for court martial and his dismissal does not prevent the court martial for all his acts against his homeland and the army.

VOL REPORTS RIGHTIST LEADERS' COMMENTS ON SOUTH

NC191709 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Shaykh Pierre Al-Jumayyil considers that all the negative developments that Lebanon witnesses from time to time are the inevitable upshot of the loss of the joint Lebanese will, beginning 4 years ago and lasting up to this moment, and of the transfer of this will to foreign states and sectors of opinions.

Al-Jumayyil said: We should not be surprised if the Lebanese areas are fragmented and the people divided. This is because there is no common factor in either the political or military authoritiy to unite the people. Authority is being exercised in our country by foreigners, not by the Lebanese state. Part of the people are living under alien hegemony, not under the aegis of the state. This being the state of affairs in the security sector, responsibility for security is now lost between the Lebanese state and a group of statelets within the state. In view of these conditions, how can we be surprised when shocks are administered to the body of Lebanon and its people and institutions, while the latter two are living in a state of loss and fragmentation?

This is why we now find somebody declaring the emergence of a state on the border and find on Lebanon's territory numerous undeclared statelets which allow themselves to exercise all the powers of the state.

Shaykh Pierre Al-Jumayyil added: Several times we have warned against the repercussions of the division of the Lebanese ranks and against the fact that a group of Lebanese are being carried away by external pressure and influence, preventing them from reuniting and understanding each other. A few days ago, we invited the representatives of the other side to a joint meeting. We thought we could perhaps draw up the outlines for the national common factor and wrest the cards of pressure and exploitation from the hands of those who are flouting Lebanon and its fate. However, we are constantly surprised by the same tune sounded by foreign bugles. This tune is then parroted by local voices. Thus, we continued to be preoccupied with sweet talk, while the country moves on from destruction to yet greater destruction. Meanwhile, nobody takes the strong position required by the dangerous conditions and the difficult circumstances.

This is the source of the disease. Why do we always want to bury our heads in the sand and camouflage and distort facts? The army's entry into the south, the ending of the discordant status of the statelets within the state, the elimination of the aggravated security situation and the achievement of national sovereignty are all matters that depend on the determination of the Lebanese to cut their links with others and dissociate their national cause from numerous issues that enter Lebanon through its widely opened doors--and frequently at the hands of Lebanon's divided sons.

The Phalangist chief said: How long will we continue to depend on the Arab and foreign states to resolve our domestic issues? Are not all the Arab states now preoccupied with their own affairs? They are not prepared to embroil themselves in a battle with Israel for our sake or even for the Palestinians' sake. Why do the Arabs impose on Lebanon, leaving it alone to be a confrontation state? Why do the Arabs want Lebanon to be attached to one Arab state at one time and to another Arab state at another time? Which Arab state is now in agreement with another one so that we can agree with the two of them?

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said in conclusion: I hope that the successive painful events to which the homeland is being exposed will be the final eyeopener that will arouse patriotic feelings and be an incentive for the adoption of bold stands which will place Lebanon on the road leading to the beginning of the end. Otherwise, everything might end in ambiguity and frustrated hope for all.

Former President Camille Sham'un this morning received the Swiss ambassador to Lebanon. The two men reviewed the general situation prevailing in Lebanon and the area.

Former President Camille Sham'un made a statement to newsmen on the initiative taken by Major Haddad in the border area. Sham'un said: Under the present critical circumstances through which Lebanon is passing, particularly the fact that the situation has developed to this grave extent--and it would have been very easy to have avoided this grave situation--I believe that under such circumstances, political wisdom dictates that no one should involve himself in making statements which might be premature.

However, it is inevitable for me to ask two questions: First: Why has a Lebanese Army force been sent to the south? If this has been done to insure Lebanese sovereignty, then which non-Lebanese forces are endangering this sovereignty in the south? Furthermore, is the Lebanese Army prepared to confront these forces?

Second: Do not the Lebanese forces, and consequently the Lebanese officials, feel some sorrow that before these forces reach the south they have to pass through Lebanese areas and villages that are still under Palestinian occupation, without these forces being able, or even trying to liberate these areas and villages?

Former President Sham'un added: It is imperative for everyone to be convinced and to act under the inspiration of the basic principle that sovereignty is indivisible and cannot adapt itself to the identity of the occupier. One should bear in mind, however, that there is only one occupier throughout Lebanon; namely the Palestinian occupier. As I say this, bear in mind that I harbor no evil intentions toward the Palestinians and I am ready to extend a helping hand to them in tackling their issues. However, I am very interested in stressing that it is imperative for the Palestinians to refuse to be a blind tool in the hands of politicians who want to harm Lebanon and its freedom and independence.

DEFENSE MINISTER WITHDRAWS RESIGNATION

NC200740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Defense Minister Gen Victor Khuri has withdrawn his resignation from the government, which he submitted last week [as heard] Meanwhile, he has given up his post as army commander in accordance with the provisions of the new defense law, under which the defense minister cannot hold the post of army commander simultaneously.

In accordance with the provisions of the law, a decree was issued yesterday allowing Defense Minister Khuri to return to his post as army commander following the expiration of his term in the Cabinet.

In accordance with the provisions of the new defense law, Chief of Staff Gen Munir Tarabay has been authorized to exercise the tasks and powers of army commander. The defense law stipulates that the chief of staff will act for the army commander in the event of his absence and will exercise his tasks and powers during that period.

HADDAD'S MILITIAS CLOSE ROADS LEADING TO THEIR AREAS

JN191847 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpt] Beirut, 19 April--Rightist militias have closed all roads leading to the strip on the border with occupied Palestine since yesterday's proclamation of the "secessionist entity." This entity's areas do not exceed 800 square kms and form a belt a few kms wide, parallel to northern Palestine.

The INA correspondent in southern Lebanon reports that the militias have closed all the roads and have set up concrete fortifications.

Citing arrivals from the border areas, the INA correspondent says that the militias have given an ultimatum to the two villages of (Tharifa) and Diroghayya--where the headquarters of the regular Lebanese Army battalion is located--to expel the Lebanese soldiers, threatening to shell the two villages if they do not do so.

The correspondent refers to the increase in the number of people fleeing towns and villages of the far south and moving northward, especially those fleeing Tyre and populated areas close to Palestinian refugee camps.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS 19 APRIL SHELLING IN SOUTH

NC191550 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 19 Apr 79 NC

[Excerpt] A statement issued by the United Nations says that six Irish soldiers and two Netherlands officers of the UNIFIL in the south were wounded in the shelling to which the An-Naqurah area was exposed at dawn today.

According to reports received from the south this morning, the areas of Tibnin, Tyre, An-Nabatiyah and some villages of Al-'Urqub are coming under sporadic artillery shelling. This shelling has also been directed against some UNIFIL positions in Ibel as-Saqi.

RADIO ATTACKS HADDAD'S SECESSIONIST DECLARATION

JN191651 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Since the beginning of the Lebanese crisis there has been an impending danger that hirelings under Sa'd Haddad's leadership, hiding beneath the Zionist enemy's umbrella, would eventually take a step toward partition. Such a step would be aimed not only against Lebanon but would threaten the entire Arab world, consequently creating an appropriate atmosphere for the parties to the capitulatory treaty to conclude their capitulatory deals and to repulse the Arab liberation tide, which opposes humiliation and rejects any yielding to the imperialist-Zionist enemy.

The lackey Sa'd Haddad has turned southern Lebanon into a hotbed, attacking the constitutional and legitimate Lebanese authority and spreading his poison against the unified Lebanon, the people and the land. It has thus become clear that the hirelings, motivated and supported by the Zionist enemy, have been waiting for the appropriate opportunity and proper circumstances under which they could destroy Lebanon's security and its unity by taking a step toward partition and creating an isolationist sectarian entity that is no less dangerous than the Zionist entity itself.

There is no doubt that Haddad's proclamation of the so-called state of Free Lebanon in the south was arranged and prepared within the framework of a more comprehensive plot established by the Camp David parties. Those parties believe that detonating the timebomb in southern Lebanon would certainly serve their goals by humiliating the Arab people and destroying their nationalist and pan-Arab will. This is self-explanatory since Sa'd Haddad and his gang immediately joined the As-Sadat-Zionist-U.S. pact, aimed against the Arab nation and a unified Arab Lebanon.

This treacherous partition measure exposes the very special relations between Haddad in southern Lebanon and the Camp David parties. These measures also expose the phased Israeli strategy of winding Haddad up to detonate the situation and jeopardize Lebanon's security, stability and national unity. It is natural then to stress the link between the Israeli strategy and Sa'd Haddad's partition step, for this step would move the conflict between the Arabs and their enemies to a new stage of fierce confrontation; it would define the various accounts, possibilities and alternatives through which the Camp David parties might move. It would also underline the immediate need for a strong, decisive Arab action against the enemy's measures and continuous plots. Hence, there must be a serious determination to act to repulse the plots of all the enemies, beginning with As-Sadat, through Begin and Carter and ending with Sa'd Haddad.

In order to confront the results of the secession by Sa'd Haddad's isolationist enclave it is necessary to stress, through a continuous struggling effort, that the legitimate Lebanese authority should prevail, foiling all attempts to divide Lebanon--the homeland, the state and the people. We must also face the imperialist plot with all our strength and strike at all the enemies' tools, which have begun to do what they please in southern Lebanon, using it as a military and political pressure card against the Arab nation's steadfastness in the face of the new aggressive expansionist pact represented by As-Sadat-Begin-Haddad and led by the United States and its umbrella of hegemony over and invasion of the Arab homeland.

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B UNDERLINES NATION'S ARAB, SOCIALIST TIES

LD191507 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Apr 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Firm Belief in Common Destiny"]

[Excerpts] Two Political Bureau members are currently abroad, the first visiting some of the Arab countries and the second the Soviet Union, within the framework of the mission entrusted to them by the president of the republic last Wednesday.

The destinations of the two emissaries at this critical juncture through which the Arab homeland is passing clearly reflect the two basic lines in Algeria's foreign policy which have been continuously crystallizing in the Arab and socialist dimensions since the independence.

The minister and presidential adviser's visit to some of the Arab countries is in response to an urgent need to create the best conditions for understanding and rapprochement among the brothers at the highest level in order to attain a high degree of effective coordination in confronting the aftermath of the surrender and downfall of a principal bastion in our long battle against the common enemy represented by Zionism and imperialism. It is this same enemy that has hatched the conspiracy against the Palestinian people in the Arab east and the Saharan people in the Arab west. It is only with such understanding and coordination that Arab unanimity and solidarity can regain their effectiveness and, therefore, make possible the containment of losses and movement with earnestness and faith toward regaining the initiative in our struggle to enable the Palestinian people to achieve their rights and to liberate all the occupied Arab territories.

It is obvious that the liberation of the Arab countries will remain incomplete and their sovereignty will remain threatened unless they all, as one entity, formulate a strategy insuring the defense of their independent existence and devote all their potential and mobilize all their resources without hesitation for this purpose because the situation has become so critical that it brooks no delay.

At this new and critical juncture Algeria is paying particular attention to promoting the fraternal ties with the Arab countries, foremost of which are the people suffering under the yoke of Zionist occupation and persecution. It is not surprising therefore that the national charter clearly provides: "Our commitment to the Palestinian people and the other Arab peoples whose lands have been occupied is more than a necessity of solidarity; it is an integral part of our action for our own liberation and, therefore, our commitment is absolute and demands the acceptance of all sacrifices, including self-sacrifice."

The relations with the socialist countries, foremost of which is the Soviet Union, represent a second dimension which is almost complementary to the first in view of the fact that total liberation is closely linked to such relations.

Algeria, which is rapidly trying to eliminate the vestiges of the dark colonialist epoch and its effects in order to make its foreign policy a reflection of its domestic policy, will seek to further strengthen its relations with the socialist countries on the basis of friendship and mutual interests.

Thus our foreign policy appears to be more and more loyal to the Algerian revolution's spirit and its basic options that determine its development, a fact which confirms the genuineness of this revolution in the international field and throws new light on its characteristics. It is revolution that knows what it wants and whose children believe in the principle they have forged and on the basis of which they distinguish between a friend and an enemy.

LOCAL PAPER COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN MAURITANIA

LD191604 Algiers APS in English 1530 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Oran, 18/4/79 (APS)--Under the tile: "Who Makes Decisions in Nouakchott?" the regional daily AL-JUMHURIYAH devotes its commentary in today's issue to the Mauritanian indefinite stand when dealing with the Western Sahara problem.

"The recent official statements saying that Mauritania is ready to start official negotiations with Algeria and the POLISARIO front are but a refrain of a song endlessly sung by Nouakchott whenever Rabat gives its approval" the paper says. "By including Algeria in the negotiations, Morocco and Mauritania deform and distort data on the problem (the paper alludes to international organizations' resolutions adknowledging the Western Sahara question as a problem of decolonization)." "However one thing is sure," AL-JUMHURIYAH says. "Moroccan political hegemony over Nouakchott will be increased and it will issue in the military occupation of Mauritania by monarchist forces."

MOROCCO

FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTS ON VISIT TO MAURITANIA

LD191422 Rabat MAP in English 1236 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, April 19 (MAP)--M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of foreign affairs, arrived here Wednesday, coming from Nouakchott where he undertook a twenty-four hour visit within the framework of the periodical consultations between Morocco and Mauritania. In a declaration to newsmen, Boucetta outlined that he went to Mauritania to exchange with Mauritanian officials points of views on questions of common interest. He added that he delivered to the Mauritanian officials a verbal message from King Hassan of Morocco, relating to the two countries relations after the last revolutions intervened in the area, and to the strenghtening of the friendly ties existing between Morocco and Mauritania.

Boucetta indicated that he equally held talks with his Mauritanian counterpart on bilateral relations and on international questions concerning the north-west African area, the Arab world and the Islamic countries, whose foreign affairs ministers will shortly hold their meeting in Morocco.

The foreign affairs minister also outlined the importance of this visit, considering the clear and firm positions adopted by the Mauritanian officials towards the Sahara question and the Moroccan-Mauritanian relations.

Concerning the perspectives of the Moroccan-Mauritanian relations, Boucetta emphasized the need to carry on their development and their strengthening, especially after the signing of the "residence convention" which will be examined by the Moroccan house of representatives, the elucidation of positions, and the realization (or the realization underway) of some projects in Mauritania.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI APPOINTS NEW POLITICAL BUREAU MEMBERS

LD192150 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD/EA

[Text] Leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Sudanese Socialist Union, has issued a decree appointing Messrs Joseph (Adohu), Natale Alwak and Yahya 'Abd al-Majid as members of the Political Bureau.

President Numayri also issued a decree relieving Mr 'Abd ar-Rahman Abdullah of membership of the Political Bureau. Another decree issued by the president relieved Prof Muhammad Hashim Awad of his post as political supervisor of the northern province and appointed Engineer Yahya 'Abd al-Majif in his place.

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN REFUTES PRESS REPORTS OF COUPS

JN191620 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1525 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 19 April--'Ali Shummu, minister of culture and information and official spokesman for the Sudanese Government, has made the following statement to SUNA:

Certain newspapers in some Arab capitals have been publishing fabricated news about the situation in the north. They have not stopped at publishing the subject or referring to it only once, but keep repeating it and adding information to it drawn solely from their imaginations. They talk of disturbances in Sudan in general, of incidents in the capital and coup attempts, numbering 383 within only a few days. Every day they add whatever they like in terms of information, which they say they receive from reliable sources.

There is no doubt that the Sudanese people and those throughout the world have followed these stories, when world news agencies reported them from these papers. These reports are fabrications that do not require much effort to be refuted, especially as our people are living in the regions they said were the scenes of coups and hotbeds of disturbances. They live without seeing or feeling what is being reiterated by tendentious people because these coups and disturbances have not happened and do not exist. What happens in Sudan is talked about by the Sudanese people frankly and clearly. They know the true aims behind the publication of such rumors, which are intended to depict Sudan as an unstable, insecure country.

The official spokesman said: They have talked much about the [word indistinct] of thousands of Egyptian soldiers stationed in Sudan after being hurriedly transported to Sudan to protect the regime. He categorically denied the presence of any Egyptian or other soldiers and said: Sudan's doors are open to all who wish to verify this. They distort the statements issued by the officials. Some of them went so far in distorting facts as to forget the honor of martyrs, saying that the martyrs of training in Al-Abyad were killed in a coup attempt when the government forces clashed with rebels in the center of Omdurman.

The discovery of some people with weapons and the arrest of those trafficking in them--so that these weapons will not fall into the hands of those who might use them against the people--is an incident of which we are proud. Its results affirm the alertness of our armed forces, security organs, all regular forces and individuals among our people.

We would like some of these people, in whose countries these papers are issued, to review what happens in their countries as a result of a lack of alertness, disloyalty and chauvinism. The official spokesman affirmed that the officials are ready to facilitate the task of journalists who seek the truth by taking them to the places specified by the tendentious reports as containing camps of Egyptian soldiers or detention camps. He reaffirmed that Sudan proceeds with firm steps, giving allegiance to no one and unaffected by promises or threats. Sudan will always be proud of the testimonies of the international organizations and world press. Sudan will continue along the path of insuring its security and its people's prosperity, regardless of the rumors fabricated about its march. It will also put up with all difficulties in order to carry out its independent role.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SEEKS AID IN CARING FOR UGANDAN REFUGEES

JN191809 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 19 April--In view of the recent events in Uganda and the influx of refugees into Sudan's southern region, the Sudanese Foreign Ministry has sent urgent messages to international and regional organizations and sister and friendly states asking for foodstuffs, medicine, tents and oil supplies to cope with the needs of Ugandan refugees currently in the southern region and those who have begun to cross Sudan's borders with Uganda by the thousands over the past few days.

Urgent messages have also been sent to Sudan's permanent representative at the United Nations and to the OAU secretary general to secure the refugee's immediate needs. The Foreign Ministry has also sent an urgent cable to Sudan's permanent representative in Geneva, who met with officials at the office of the high commissioner for refugees. The officials expressed their appreciation of Sudan's positive policy toward the refugees' problems. They also expressed their readiness to extend urgently needed supplies.

TUNISIA

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS ATTEMPT AT SECESSION IN LEBANON

LD192158 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Apr 79

[Text] Commenting on the report by news agencies concerning the declaration by a misguided group led by Maj Sa'd Haddad to bring about the secession of south Lebanon from the legitimate authority in the country, a Tunisian foreign ministry spokesman said:

While sister Lebanon is trying, in cooperation with fraternal Arab countries and the United Nations, to dress its wounds and to regain its integrity by strengthening is territorial and popular unity and by preserving its sovereignty and independence, this misguided group embarks on this secessionist step in collusion with the Israeli occupation authorities. In drawing attention to the dangers of this attempt and to the blatant Israeli plans which inspired it to undermine the unity of Lebanon, to destroy its sovereignty and independence, and to occupy another part of Arab territory in a disguised manner, Tunisia denounces this plot. Tunisia calls on the Arab states and international public opinion to stand on the side of Lebanon and support it in resisting his new defiance which could only result in escalation of the crisis in the region and in creating conditions which might expose world peace to incalculable complications.

19 APRIL SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON REPORTED

TA191650 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[From the IDF Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Now for a report from the northern border itself, here is our correspondent Menahem Horowitz.

[Horowitz] A tense calm prevailed throughout the day in settlements in the Christian enclave north of Metulla, after exchanges of fire between the terrorists and the Christian militias throughout yesterday in which UNIFIL troops stationed in southern Lebanon were also involved. In the northern settlements life also went on as usual after several Katyusha rockets and shells fell yesterday in the area of western Galilee and the settlements of the Galilee panhandle. Up to 2200 last night, more than 20 Christian Phalangist wounded were brought for medical treatment at the good fence at Metulla and five of them were transferred for treatment in hospitals in Israel. About an hour ago dozens of Lebanese women, who live in the Christian settlements north of Metulla, were seen returning from work in Israel. The Lebanese men did not arrive for work in Israel for the fourth consecutive day, because of the call-up of all the forces in southern Lebanon. Despite the tension prevailing in the north, thousands of the inhabitants of the upper Galilee settlements, those of the Galilee panhandle and Qiryat Shemona, came to celebrate their holiday at Horshat Tal. The mayor of Qiryat Shemona declared today to be a holiday to permit the Qiryat inhabitants to take part in the celebrations.

HADDAD ALLOWS SOME UNIFIL UNITS TO MOVE

TA201111 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The Christian militias in southern Lebanon are allowing the Nepalese and Norwegian soldiers in UNIFIL to move toward Israeli territory in order to obtain supplies. The commander of the militias, Major Haddad, says that this is a good will gesture because of the units' objective conduct during the latest events.

Nevertheless, our correspondent Yehezq'el HaMe'iri reports that the militias' siege of other UN units is still in force.

At the same time, it has been reported that the regular Lebanese battalion's deployment is not yet complete. Perhaps the terrorists are trying to force the battalion soldiers to continue moving toward the central and eastern enclaves.

HADDAD'S SPOKESMAN ON DECLARATION, LEBANESE BATTALION

TA191901 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] There was a tense calm today in the area of the enclave after a week of heavy exchanges of fire. However, the declaration by the commander of the militias, Major Haddad, yesterday, about the founding of self-rule in southern Lebanon continues to cause echoes both in Israel and throughout the world. At any rate, the commanders of the militias explain that the declaration is purely formal and will not lead to any changes in the structure of the administration in southern Lebanon or in the attitude of the militia commanders of the various elements. The spokesman of the militias, Francis Rizq, spoke about this with our correspondent in the north, Yehezq'el HaMe'iri. [Begin recording]

[Question] Mr Rizq, will you be able to stand on your own in this campaign?

[Answer] Up to now, thank God, we have succeeded in standing. We are defending our lives, our children, our land and we want either to live as one should or to die. We will defend our land.

[Question] Many countries have condemned this step and come out against it. What do you have to say about this?

[Answer] France was opposed, but what has France done? They used to say they were Christian. They used to say they were believing Christians and brothers to Lebanon. What did they do? Did they begin...did they succeed in saving (Damoz) [as heard] from the murder there? They could have helped the people of Ash-Shiyah, the people of Ta'lbaya and all the Christian villages which were destroyed, where mass murder was committed. We do not rely on anyone; we rely on ourselves. We want to be able to help ourselves. We are only grateful to the State of Israel, which has done all in its power to help us stand firm.

[Question] Last night there were clashes between you and the UN forces in An-Naqurah. What will your position be toward the UN force in the south?

[Answer] They started it. They killed one of our citizens, a Muslim. We told them today that they should be neutral. If not, they will get a stronger, more serious answer.

[Question] Today the Lebanese Government will meet for a special session in which it will decide to put Major Haddad on trial for treason, and he is expected to be given the death sentence.

[Answer] To us, the Lebanese Government is worthless. The Syrians speak, and they listen to the Syrians. They receive orders directly from Syria. Therefore, the Lebanese Government, to us, is worth nothing.

[Question] What do you expect in the future? Will the situation worsen here in the sector, with the terrorists, with [word indistinct] with the Lebanese battalion?

[Answer] The Lebanese battalion is pro-Syrian. Most of its soldiers, I think, are enemy, extremist Muslims and they are pro-Syrian. Their government has no freedom to speak. They get orders from Syria, all of them, from the prime minister to the lowest soldier. We called on them to join us if they are free Lebanese. We will not recognize them and we are not prepared to let them enter our enclaves. [end recording]

OFFICIAL ON REACTION TO SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

TA191220 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] A senior official source reported today that Israel does not want to be involved in the incidents and the tension created upon the movement of the Lebanese battalion to the UN-controlled area in southern Lebanon. Israel has made it clear to the United States that the Lebanese force consists of a battalion of 500 soldiers, including a mortar platoon, and four armored vehicles, and as long as this situation remains unchanged Israel wants to avoid any involvement in the sensitive situation that has developed. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav brings further details.

[Nadav--apparently live] No significance is attached in Israel to this Lebanese battalion as an element in the military balance in southern Lebanon. However, according to the same source, the danger inherent in it pertains to the implications and developments that may ensue following the deployment of the battalion in the UN-controlled area. What concerns the IDF is the increased confidence of the terrorists who have unleashed a wave of terrorism upon the signing of the peace treaty with Egypt, a wave that has only just begun. This increased terrorist confidence was yesterday expressed in a long-range cannon shelling by the terrorists who fired more than 60 shells on settlements in the western Galilee and the finger of Galilee. It transpires that it is from this fire that a Norwegian UNIFIL soldier was killed and another was wounded when they were in the enclave near Ibil as-Saqy in the enclave, near the Israeli border. The IDF, which tried to avoid intervention, could not but react in order to silence the terrorist sources of firing, the official source said. Declarations by Damascus about the intention to restore Lebanese rule in the enclaves, to close the good fence with Israel, and to put Haddad on trial are further increasing Israel's fear over developments resulting from the stationing of the Lebanese battalion in southern Lebanon. What is already clear is that the tension among all elements in southern Lebanon has greatly increased with the movement of the Lebanese force--among the UN force, the terrorists, the Haddad men and Israel. The first sign of this was yesterday's incident in which the UN soldiers killed a Muslim resident of the village of Ad-Dahriyah and wounded and captured his friend.

BEGIN CABLES WALDHEIM ON LEBANESE SITUATION

TA191629 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The prime minister today sent a letter to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim rejecting the claims by the UN secretary that Israel supported Major Haddad's recent threats of violence. The prime minister writes in his letter that the Government of Israel had never aided Major Haddad's threats; what Israel has done is to rescue the Christian minority from the threat of physical extinction by the conquering Syrian Army and from those professional murderers called the PLO. Mr Begin writes that he is amazed that the United Nations did not itself take the necessary measures to prevent the destruction of a religious minority in the Middle East. Mr Begin draws the UN secretary's attention to the fact that since the stationing of the UN force in southern Lebanon, 21 of its soldiers have been killed by the terrorists. Mr Begin writes: I understand that this truth is not widely known, but this fact is worthy of the attention of all the members of the United Nations.

Further Details

TA191633 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[Excerpt] The prime minister, in the letter he sent Waldheim replies that Israel has to do everything possible to guard its security. He describes the activity of the PLO in southern Lebanon and recalls the latest strikes the terrorists tried to carry out on Israel's northern border. Israel does not, it is true, influence Major Haddad, the prime minister says, but it is clear that it must look after its security and do everything it can to prevent activity of murderers from southern Lebanon.

In ministerial consultations held today on the issue of southern Lebanon, the latest developments in this area were discussed. The consultations were held in the framework of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

Political circles in Jerusalem referred today to the declaration by Christian Militia Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad about the establishment of a temporary independent administration and the implications of this declaration on the situation in southern Lebanon. It is known that the declaration of independent administration was not made in coordination with Israel, but the circles explained that Israel is not Major Haddad's custodian and it is his right to act as he wishes. If Haddad has decided to establish an independent administration on the assumption that this will aid the Christians independent existence in southern Lebanon, then there is no importance to the question of whether this step has Israeli support or not. Israel is keeping a close watch on the arrival of the Lebanese battalion and its deployment in the south and the developments arising from this.

PAPER CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT FOR 'DESERTING' HADDAD

TA190957 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Apr 79 p 2 TA

[Editorial: "The Desertion of Haddad"]

[Text] The last few days have been days of joint and enormous pressure exerted on Begin to influence him to go back on his initial intention to pile obstacles on the way of the Lebanese force moving from Beirut to deploy in southern Lebanon. Volunteering to contribute toward "tying Begin up" were all elements who had a say in the matter--the United States, UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, and most of the Common Market countries including even Norway, which also had a hand in the matter. It is no wonder that Begin did not see a way out other than to withdraw and give up.

However, his hope that in spite of his withdrawal Haddad would be able to keep his status and prevent the approach of the Lebanese force to our border is a vain hope since the Lebanese head of the puppet government has already declared that the movement of his force southward is only a first step toward the conquest of the entire south of Lebanon including the militias enclaves and the area immediately bordering Israel. When this force reaches its immediate destination it is doubtful whether he will be able to prevent it (the force that has Syria at its back!) from completing the occupation of the entire southern Lebanon region.

U.S. TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS

Weizman, Strauss Meeting

TA191523 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman has had a short talk with the U.S. representative for commercial affairs, Robert Strauss. As far as we know, the question of U.S. aid for the establishment of the two airfields in the Negev was discussed. No further details have been reported. At the opening of the talks, Robert Strauss said that the aim of the delegation's visit was to define the problems--not to solve them. Our correspondent on economic affairs, Yosi Melman, estimates that the delegation's visit will not cause an increase in investments from the United States.

Meeting With Pat

TA191457 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The high-level U.S. delegation on trade and investment began talks in Jerusalem a short time ago with the Israeli economic and trade leaders. The delegation headed by President Carter's special envoy, Robert Strauss, arrived here from Cairo this morning. Harley Brademan reports. [Begin recording]

[Brademan] The plenary meeting was slightly delayed because special envoy Strauss first spoke to Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. In the first welcoming speech, Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister Gid'on Pat had this to say:

[Pat] We are now at the threshold of a new era in the Middle East, symbolized by the recent signing of the treaty of peace between our country and Egypt.

[Brademan] Pat praised President Carter and then went on:

[Pat] We are now witnessing a loosening [word indistinct] situation which we have experienced in these 30 years around our small country, a country poor in natural resources but rich in its people's spirits and their ingenuity in overcoming the most challenging obstacles. It is clear to us that the new possibilities can and will be developed only gradually, keeping in mind the fact that sensitivities and mistrust still prevail. We have to prepare ourselves for the major advances of the future by small and cautious steps in the present. There I see the great contribution that you can make to our country and to this part of the world: The creation of investments and the transfer of technology and know-how that you can provide will be decisive for the future developments of our entire region. Trade relations with Egypt will benefit both our countries and might further help the political process by encouraging other countries to join us if we are successful.

[Brademan] Last year Israel exported over $700 million worth of goods to the United States but imported over $1.1 billion worth. She therefore wants to cut down the gap and expand trade and investments. She wants U.S. help in eliminating barriers to trade and overcoming the effects of the Arab boycott. The Americans wish to maintain the momentum, create new opportunities between both countries and foster the economic well-being of Israel and Egypt. [end recording]

[Announcer] Among the U.S. delegation is Senator Abraham Ribicoff, who this morning told Israel Radio reporter Yosi Melman that he was bringing with him an important message to Prime Minister Begin from President as-Sadat. On his impressions Senator Ribicoff had this to say: [Begin recording]

[Ribicoff] Well, very positive. I believe that a very good relationship has been established between President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin which bodes well for the development of the peace agreements and will bring eventual peace.

[Unidentified correspondent] And the final question to Ribicoff about reports that President Carter's brother, Billy, was involved in a company set up to sell arms to Libya.

[Ribicoff] Well, that will get nowhere. That's a ridiculous situation and I wouldn't lose any sleep on it. The United States isn't going to supply any weapons to Libya under any circumstances, no matter who is interested in it. [end recording]

Meeting With Begin

TA201013 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 20 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The meeting between Mr Begin and the high-level U.S. trade delegation ended about an hour ago in the prime minister's office in Jerusalem. The head of the delegation is President Carter's adviser Robert Strauss and other members of the delegation include senators, a member of the House of Representatives, assistant secretaries from various U.S. administration economic offices, bank managers and businessmen.

Senator Ribicoff, who is a member of the delegation, brought Mr Begin a personal message from President as-Sadat.

Prior to arriving in Israel, the delegation visited Egypt.

Now, its members are holding a news conference at the Hilton Hotel in Jerusalem and they will depart from the country in the afternoon.

BEGIN: FOREIGN MINISTRY IN CHARGE OF EGYPTIAN CONTACTS

TA191053 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Apr 79 p 3 TA

[By Daniyel Bloch]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has announced that the Foreign Ministry would be in charge of maintaining all government contacts with Egypt, just as the Foreign Ministry is in charge of all of Israel's contacts with the United States and all other countries. The announcement was made during the Ministerial Committee for Autonomy Affairs on Tuesday.

The announcement means that all of Israel's official contacts with Egypt, including economic and commercial issues, energy issues and the like, will be coordinated through the foreign minister, as things are done with respect to official relations with other countries as well.

The prime minister's statement put an end to a misunderstanding between Begin and Dayan. The foreign minister regarded the appointment of the director general of the prime minister's office, Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, as chairman of the committee for setting the rules for the normalization with Egypt a blow to the Foreign Ministry's authority and a tendency to concentrate the handling of the relations with Egypt in the prime minister's office. Now it has become clear that the Ben-Elisar committee will deal with setting the rules for the interim period up to the normalization and in coordination with the government ministries in areas such as the arrangements for passage and movement between the countries, visas, changes in rules and regulations and the like.

COMMITTEE DETERMINES SOURCE OF AUTHORITY ON AUTONOMY

TA101027 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Apr 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[By 'Uzi Benziman, HA'ARETZ political correspondent]

[Text] The source of authority from which the autonomy regime in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip will derive its strength to act must be Israel. This was stated on Tuesday by the 11 members of the Ministerial Committee for Autonomy Affairs when they met for the first time. In the course of their meeting they appointed the six-man committee, headed by Minister Dr Y. Burg, which will conduct the negotiations with Egypt implementing the autonomy.

In the opinion of the 11 ministers, the source of autority must be Israeli. This opinion was expressed in an informal talk they held in the course of their meeting. The issue was raised by Foreign Minister Dayan, who submitted a document to the prime minister containing principles for an autonomy regime as Dayan sees them. The foreign minister asked Mr Begin to distribute this document among the members of the committee together with other position papers that have been submitted to the government with regard to the image of the autonomy.

The HA'ARETZ correspondent notes that so far a number of documents have been presented to the Cabinet which express positions on the principles of the autonomy regime, drafted by Ministers Sharon, Landau, the three NRP [National Religious Party] ministers, as well as the conclusions of the Ben-Elisar committee on this subject. Now Dayan has added his viewpoints.
After he presented his document Dayan noted that he would be out of the country for the next 3 weeks or so (he is leaving early next week to visit a number of Far Eastern countries) and will therefore be unable to attend the discussions of this 11-man committee which will dwell on the principles of the autonomy regime. In order to express his view, Dayan submitted the document and stated that he only wished to say that in his opinion the source of authority must be Israeli, in order to insure that the autonomy will govern people--not territory. Dayan's statements in this respect were received with general agreement, all those present noting that Israel must insist that the source of authority in the autonomy regime be Israeli.

The HA'ARETZ correspondent points out that the question of the nature of the source of authority, from which the legislative administrative autonomy council will draw its strength to act has accompanied the negotiations between Israel and Egypt and the United States on the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement. Cairo and Washington expressed total opposition to the Israeli view that the autonomy institutions will derive their powers from the Israel military government. At one stage of the negotiations it was proposed that the basic document of the autonomy regime would constitute the source of authority, provided that Israel would retain veto rights on subjects it considered vital, which would be included in the spheres of activity of the autonomy council. Israel even expressed itself ready to split the 5 years of the autonomy into two periods: During the first, the autonomy institutions would draw their authority from the military government law and during the second, from the basic or founding document establishing the autonomy council. Dayan's statement 2 days ago, in which he was joined by all the members of the ministerial committee, thus reflects a toughening in Israel's positions as expressed throughout the negotiations with Egypt.

At the meeting of the 11-man committee Dayan failed in his attempt to bring about the dissolution of this group. The foreign minister contended that this committee should have completed the Israeli position papers toward the negotiations with Egypt on the autonomy within the next month and then it must disband. He also disputed the need to form a six-man committee for conducting the negotiations, stating that it should be split up into smaller sub-committees. But the prime minister and most of the 11-man committee members felt differently. Ministers Sharon, Burg and Hammer asked why the 11-man committee had been set up if the intention was to disband it 1 month after it had begun its work. The prime minister joined the view held by the majority, that the 11-man committee would continue its work and closely follow the autonomy negotiations. Begin also shared the view of the majority that the six-man committee would conduct the negotiations and a decision to this effect should be taken, and not leave the matter undecided, as the foreign minister proposed.

At Begin's recommendation, Minister Yosef Burg was appointed to head the committee. (Begin explained this was due to the fact that the autonomy is an issue which belongs in the internal sphere, and that is why the interior minister should also head the negotiating team) together with Ministers Dayan, Weizman and Sharon. The prime minister added that he had also proposed to Messrs Yadin and Ehrlich to participate in the negotiating team, but they sent Messrs Tamir and Nisim instead.

Until the negotiations with Egypt and the United States on the autonomy begin, the 11-man committee will meet weekly in order to work out Israel's position toward the negotiations.

In the course of the meeting on the holiday eve, the foreign minister expressed objections to the prime minister's decision to entrust the interministerial committee headed by Dr Ben-Elisar with handling the application of the treaty with Egypt. Dayan stated that this subject, by its nature, ought to be entrusted to the Foreign Ministry. Mr Begin replied that Ben-Elisar's appointment did not conflict with the central role the Foreign Ministry will have to fulfill in this respect. No decision was taken in the course of the session to change the situation in which the Ben-Elisar committee would be in charge of translating the peace treaty with Egypt into the language of reality (Dayan had demanded this), even though after the session ministers estimated that such a possibility exists.

MA'ARIV PUBLISHES CARTER-HUSAYN CORRESPONDENCE

TA200917 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Apr 79 p 14 TA

[MA'ARIV "First Full Publication of Carter's Letter to Husayn Concerning Jerusalem, Judaea and Samaria"]

[Text] 1. Does the United States intend to be a full partner in the negotiations over the West Bank and Gaza and the question of the Palestinians in general? In which stage of the negotiations will the United States participate and in what role?

Yes, the United States will be a full partner in the whole of the peace negotiations between Israel and the Arabs leading to the achievement of a just, viable and encompassing peace in the Middle East. The United States will use its full influence to bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion. President Carter will continue to play an active personal role in the negotiations.

2. What does the framework agreement mean by speaking of "representatives of the Palestinian nation?

This is not an attempt to achieve a comprehensive definition. In several cases the reference is specifically to representatives of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza. In one case it is clear that what is called "other Palestinians as agreed upon mutually" means representatives from outside the West Bank and Gaza who are not necessarily citizens of Egypt or Jordan. Palestinians who are citizens of Egypt or Jordan will, of course, be able to be members of the negotiating teams representing these countries. In other cases, the reference is to the self-rule authority.

The United States interprets the term "representatives of the Palestinian nation" not in terms of any single group or single organization as the representatives of the Palestinian nation, but as including whoever was chosen to participate in the negotiations. It is expected that they will accept the objectives of the negotiations as they are defined in Security Council Resolution No 242 and that, in the framework of a settlement, they will be willing to live in peace and good neighborly relations with Israel.

3. Why was a period of 5 years chosen for the transition period for the west of the Jordan and Gaza?

This idea is American and was first put forward to the sides in the summer of 1977. The key point is the idea of a transition period--not the exact 5 years--as was proposed and agreed upon.

We think that a transition process of several years--at the beginning of which Israel will evacuate its military government and civilian administration and a self-rule authority will be established for the inhabitants of West Jordan and Gaza--will be able to demonstrate that the practical problems springing from a transition to peace can find a satisfactory solution. We regard the transition period as something essential for building trust, to achieve acceleration and bring about changes in positions which will guarantee a final settlement which will fulfill the legitimate rights of the Palestinian nation on the one hand and guarantee Israel's security, and that of the other sides, on the other.

4. (A) What is the geographical definition of the "West Bank" and Gaza in the opinion of the U.S. administration? Are East Jerusalem and the Arab territories around it, which were annexed to Israel after June 1967, included in this definition?

In the view of the United States the concept "the West Bank and Gaza" describes the entire area west of the Jordan which was under Jordanian administration before the 1967 war. And the whole of the area east of the western borders of Eretz Yisra'el under the mandate which, before the 1967 war, was under Egyptian control and known by the name of the Gaza Strip.

As for the negotiations included in the framework agreement, we think that a distinction should be drawn between Jerusalem and the rest of the West Bank because of the city's special status and the circumstances. Because of this, we see a solution to Jerusalem's final status as likely to have a different character in several aspects from that of the rest of the West Bank.

The final status of Jerusalem must not be influenced by unilateral acts in it since the 1967 war. The full position of the United States on the matter of Jerusalem remains as it was declared by Ambassador Goldberg in his speech to the UN General Assembly on 14 July 1967 and in Ambassador Yost's speech at the Security Council on 1 July 1969.

4. (B) At the end of the 5 years of transition arrangements, what will be the status of the West Bank and Gaza from the aspect of sovereignty?

The final status of the West Bank and Gaza and, in this context, the question of sovereignty, must be determined on the basis of Security Council Resolution 242, with all its sections, in negotiations between Jordan, Egypt, Israel and the elected representatives of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza and which should open no later than the third year after the beginning of the transition period. According to the conditions of the framework agreement, the results of these negotiations--and, in this context, the determination of the question of sovereignty--will be submitted for a vote by the elected representatives of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza for ratification or rejection.

Since the negotiations over the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan and the negotiations over the final status of the West Bank and Gaza are connected with each other, the framework agreement determines that representatives of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza should participate in both of them.

Thus, Palestinians will participate in all negotiations intended to solve the question of the final status of the West Bank and Gaza.

4. (C) What is the U.S. position on these questions?

The U.S. position regarding the geographical definition of the concept "the West Bank and Gaza" is stated in Article IV (A). The U.S. position regarding the sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza is expressed in Article IV (B).

4. (D) Will any Israeli forces remain in any part of the West Bank and Gaza after the 5-year transition period? If so, by what right and with what justification?

Security arrangements at the end of the transition period in the West Bank and Gaza, and, in this context, the question of Israeli security personnel possibly remaining and the continuation of such a presence must be dealt with in negotiations over the final status of the West Bank and Gaza which are intended to open no later than the third year of the transition period.

4. (E) What is the U.S. position on these questions?

The United States thinks that the agreement about the final status of the West Bank and Gaza ought to answer the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian nation and Israel's security needs. The United States will not, if the sides agree to this, oppose stationing limited numbers of Israeli security personnel in defined areas in the West Bank and Gaza and in defined roles as one of the factors toward granting security to Israel.

5. During the transition period of self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza, what will be the supreme supervisory authority, under which the self-rule authority will work? Will this be a UN authority or a similar international neutral authority? What source will finance the budgetary needs of the self-rule authority? What will its authority be? What will limit its authority?

The framework determines that the sides, that is, Egypt, Jordan and Israel, together with the Palestinians in the Egyptian and Jordanian delegations, "will negotiate over an agreement that will define the authority of the self-rule authority and its spheres of responsibility." Thus the self-rule authority during the transition period will be found in an international agreement between the three sides. The agreement will increase the authority of the self-rule authority and will grant full autonomy to the inhabitants. There is nothing in the framework agreement preventing the sides from deciding, if they agree to this, to grant a role of supervisor or another role to a UN authority or to a similar neutral authority, or from deciding that there will be no supervisory authority at all.

In addition to this, during the transition period, representatives of Egypt and Israel, Jordan and the self-rule authority will establish a permanent committee which will be able to deal with common affairs. The financing methods of the self-rule administration were not discussed at Camp David and must be determined in an agreement between the sides.

6. (A) When the document speaks of the self-rule authority, does the sphere of judgment of this authority include the part of Jerusalem that was a part of the West Bank when it was conquered and also other areas around it which were annexed, both in terms of territory and in terms of inhabitants?

As was stated, the question of the status of Jerusalem was not solved at Camp David and must be dealt with in future negotiations. The question of how the relationship between the inhabitants of East Jerusalem and the self-rule authority will be created must be determined in negotiations regarding the transition arrangements.

6. (B) What is the U.S. position on this question?

In these negotiations, the United States will support proposals which will permit Arab inhabitants of East Jerusalem who are not citizens of Israel to participate in elections to the self-rule authority and in the work of the authority itself. It is almost certain that it is not realistic to expect that it will be possible to broaden the full scope of the self-rule authority to East Jerusalem during the transition period. However, this situation will not determine in advance the final status of Jerusalem, which must be determined in the above-mentioned negotiations, to begin no later than the third year of the transition period.

7. (A) At the end of the 5-year transition period, what will be the status of conquered Arab Jerusalem?

The status of the West Bank and Gaza and their relations with their neighbors, like the peace between Israel and Jordan, will be determined in the negotiations referred to in Article I A (C) of the framework agreement. The United States thinks that the status of the part of Jerusalem conquered by Israel in 1967 should be solved in these negotiations.

7. (B) What is the U.S. position on this question?

The U.S. position on the matter of Jerusalem is stated in Article IV (A). The final status of Jerusalem should not be affected by the unilateral acts in Jerusalem since the 1967 war. Any solution agreed upon should keep Jerusalem as an undivided city from the physical aspect. It should provide free approach to the places sacred to Jews, Muslims and Christians without any difference or discrimination for the sake of the Lord's free work. It should guarantee the basic rights of all the inhabitants of the city. The sacred places of each of the religions must be under the full authority of its representatives.

8. (A) What will happen to the Israeli settlements in the areas conquered during the interim period and after it? What will happen to the assets obtained and the buildings constructed there and what will their status be?

The framework agreement does not deal with the status of the Israeli settlements in the conquered areas, nor with the assets acquired or the buildings constructed there. The authorities of the self-rule autonomy and its sphere of responsibility which will activate full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza during the transition period will be defined in an agreement which will be negotiated by Egypt, Israel, Jordan and, as was determined in the framework agreement, Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza or other Palestinians who will be mutually agreed upon and who will be in the Egyptian and Jordanian delegations. The questions of the Israeli settlements and their relations with the self-rule authority during the transition period should be dealt with during these negotiations. The framework agreement also states that a permanent committee including representatives of Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the self-rule authority, which will be able to deal with salient matters having a common interest, during the transition period.

The question of the Israeli settlements and th status after the transition period should be a matter for debate during the negotiations on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza, referred to in Article I A (C).

8. (B) What will Israel commit itself to, on the matter of the settlement policy, during the upcoming period and up to the end of the transition period?

The U.S. position is that Israel must refrain from establishing new settlements in the West Bank as long as the negotiations continue over the founding of the self-rule. These negotiations will determine the question of the existing settlements and that of new settlement activity during the transition period.

8. (C) What is the U.S. position on the questions referred to above?

The U.S. position is that the foundation of settlements during the period of military conquest is a violation of the fourth Geneva charter regarding the defense of people during a period of war. And in relations of peace, the sides to the peace should define the mutual rights of the inhabitants to conduct business, work, live and otherwise act in each other's spheres.

9. A) Will the Israeli citizens now living in settlements be entitled to participate in founding the self-rule and its activities?

Israeli citizens living in settlements in the West Bank and Gaza will be able to participate in the founding of the self-rule authority only as members of the Israeli delegation to the negotiations. There is no decision regarding any separate participation by them. Their participation, if there is such, in the self-rule authority should be determined in negotiations over the administration during the transition period.

9. (B) What will be the status of the Israeli citizens living in the West Bank and Gaza during the transition period and will they continue to live there after the transition period and, if so, what will be their status?

The negotiations, according to Article I A(2) which defines the authority and the spheres of responsibility of the authority, will deal with the status of the Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza and, in accordance with this, with the status of the Israeli citizens living in them.

The number of Israelis likely to remain after the transition period and their status will be discussed, as it is assumed, in negotiations dealing with the final status of the West Bank and Gaza.

10. (A) At the end of the 5-year transition period, will the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza freely use their right to self-determination in order to decide on their political future?

The framework agreement determines that the elected representatives of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza will participate fully in the negotiations in which the final status of the West Bank and Gaza will be determined and, in addition to this, that the elected representatives will ratify or reject the agreement to be achieved in these negotiations. The framework agreement also determines that the solution to be achieved in the negotiations must also recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian nation and their just needs. The extensive agreement about the results of this process is in the interest of all sides and is directly connected with making it "in freedom." [as published] On this matter, while the process described above is occurring, a strong local police force will be in existence and will be responsible to the self-rule authority for guaranteeing that there will be no intervention in the political process guaranteeing these rights.

10. (B) What is the U.S. position on this question?

The United States supports the right of the Palestinians to participate in determining their future and thinks that the framework agreement established such participation in all the important steps in determining the future of the West Bank and Gaza.

The United States thinks that Article I A(C)(2) does not negate the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza holding elections after achieving an agreement regarding the final status of the West Bank and Gaza, for the clear objective of electing representatives before whom this agreement will be brought for a vote.

11. (A) What solution does the framework agreement have to the problem of the Palestinians living outside the conquered areas as refugees and the return of their rights?

Article IV A of the framework agreement determines that Egypt and Israel will act together and with other interested sides to agree on a solution to the refugee problem. Carrying out the processes to be agreed upon will be immediate, just and permanent.

Article III A of the framework agreement states that a permanent committee provided for arrangements for the return of human beings who were uprooted from the West Bank and Gaza in 1967, to these areas.

In addition to this, while the political institutions of the self-rule are becoming established in the West Bank and Gaza in negotiations between the sides, they will also apply themselves to the relations between these institutions and the Palestinians living outside these areas.

11. (B) What does the United States see as a basis for a solution to this question? How does it define these rights?

The United States thinks that a solution to the refugee problem should reflect the UN resolutions capable of being put into operation. All operational programs should grant these refugees who are living outside the West Bank and Gaza a choice and the opportunity for permanent accommodation in the context of reality and the circumstances in existence today.

12. What does the framework agreement provide on the matter of the future of the rest of the conquered Arab territories? What is the position of the U.S. administration on this question?

The framework agreement states that its intention is to be a basis for peace between Israel and each of its neighbors. It further states that the objective is a just, comprehensive and viable peace. And that any negotiations must include all the articles and principles of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Article I C determines specifically that the principles of the framework agreement will be applicable to treaties between Israel and Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, in addition to Egypt.

On the matter of the West Bank in particular, Article I A(C) provides negotiations based on all the clauses of Resolution 242 and which will solve, among other things, the question of the location of the borders. The United States continues to support encompassing peace which includes all Israel's neighbors. As for the possibility of negotiations for a peace settlement between Israel and Syria, the United States will support the implementation of all the principles and clauses of Resolution 242 in such a settlement.

13. In defining the security needs in the region, does the United States support the principles of mutuality involving these needs or does the United States think that these needs are unilateral?

The United States gives full support to the principles of mutuality implemented for the purpose of security in the context of the peace negotiations in the Middle East.

The preamble to the framework agreement speaks specifically of mutuality as a basis upon which the sides can agree to special security arrangements. The framework agreement also deals with the security questions "of all the sides" and with the security of "Israel and its neighbors."

14. Since Security Council Resolution 242 is supposed to be the basis for any negotiations for a settlement of the question of the West Bank and Gaza and other sides to the dispute, what will the United States do in the event of contradictory interpretations by the negotiating sides, particularly in view of the U.S. Government's previous interpretations of Security Council Resolution 242 and the commitments based on it, which were the bases for Jordan's agreement to this resolution?

First of all, the United States will adhere to its consistent interpretation of Resolution 242, especially its interpretation that the principle of withdrawal in this resolution will be implemented on all the fronts. In the event of contradictory interpretations by the negotiating sides, the United States, as it did during the intensive negotiations at Camp David, will try to find unanimity of views between the sides and will announce what its interpretations are regarding what is required for a settlement of the dispute. The U.S. interpretations have remained those it has held since 1967.

[Signed] Jimmy Carter

HA'ARETZ COMMENTS ON MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON AUTONOMY

TA200845 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Apr 79 p 13 TA

['Uzi Benziman commentary: "How to Digest the Autonomy"]

[Text] It was hard to ignore the first impression: The government deployment for the negotiations over the autonomy seems like a caricature. Out of 17 Cabinet members a ministerial committee of 11 ministers was founded whose task is to keep a continuous watch over the negotiations on the autonomy. This committee will give regular reports to the full Cabinet and bring each issue of principle for its decision. From among the committee of 11 a committee of six ministers was established, which will be Israel's negotiating team. The committee of six will report continuously to the full Cabinet. And around we go.

The composition of the committee of six also invites amazement. Minister of the Interior Dr Yosef Burg has been appointed to head the committee. Burg is a man with many deeds to his credit, an experienced politician and sharp-tongued. However, he has never conducted negotiations with representatives of an Arab country. When Menahem Begin this week proposed that the committee of 11 choose Dr Burg to head the committee of six, he gave reasoning of diverse significance: The autonomy, said Begin, is an issue in the sphere of domestic affairs and therefore there is no candidate more suitable than the minister of the interior to head the Israeli negotiating team.

Is the autonomy really a domestic affair? Is there not a tone of arrogance buried in this declaration, made on the eve of the opening of negotiations with Egypt, with whom Israel has just signed a peace treaty? Will Egypt and the United States, who were Israel's rivals in the negotiations, really see foundations for opening a dialog on the basis of Begin's assumption that autonomy belongs in the domestic sphere, why did he at first offer the leadership of the committee to Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan?

It was only after the foreign minister had rejected Begin's proposal that the prime minister turned to the minister of the interior and suggested that he head the committee of six. How did an issue in the sphere of foreign policy turn overnight into a matter actually involving the minister of the interior?

It was hard to ignore another fact: Two people whom the prime minister proposed be members of the committee of six turned down his appeal. Messrs Yiga'el Yadin and Simha Ehrlich opted to send replacement ministers in their stead. Yadin chose Shmu'el Tamir and Ehrlich chose Moshe Nisim. Yadin explained his decision by his desire to divert the Cabinet's activity to domestic and social problems, since over the last 2 years the best of its organizational and intellectual forces have been devoted to the negotiations with Egypt. There were those who claimed that this was not the only reason for Yadin's refusal to participate in the committee of six, the uncomfortable position he found himself in as a member of a committee whose chairman is the minister of the interior, not himself, was also a factor. Whether this evaluation is correct or not, Yadin's concession of his place in the committee exposes a certain attitude toward it. The same applies to Simha Ehrlich. The finance minister was heard to say that as far as he was concerned the committee of the six was not particularly important.

And so the committee of six for the negotiations with Egypt contains four ministers who are members of the Ministerial Committee for Security and two who are not members of that committee. If the accepted decision is correct, according to which the eight members of the Ministerial Committee for Security are considered the most "senior" of the Cabinet ministers, then a third of the committee of six (Messrs Tamir and Nisim) are actually among the inferior camp. Even anyone formulating his evaluations of Cabinet members according to their personalities and functions and not necessarily according to their personalities and functions and not necessarily to their membership in the Ministerial Committee for Security, cannot do other than be impressed by the fact that two-thirds of the members of the committee of six are completely without experience in negotiations with Arab statesmen. As far as is known, only Ministers Dayan and Weizman have dealt with negotiations with Arab statesmen, particularly Egyptians. Messrs Sharon, Burg, Nisim and Tamir are without any experience whatsoever in this field.

In the prime minister's office attempts were made this week to solve this by removing the above-mentioned difficulties. "Up to the negotiations with Egypt Begin was also without experience in contacts with Arab statesmen and in spite of this disadvantage, the negotiations went well and the peace treaty was signed," sources close to Mr Begin said, adding: "In any event, a successful personal relationship was created between the prime minister and the Egyptian president and this link can make the negotiations over the autonomy issue easier." Praise was also heard this week in the prime minister's office for the personalities of Messrs Burg, Tamir and Nisim as being suitable to be members of the negotiations committee on the autonomy (the membership of Messrs Sharon, Weizman and Dayan in the committee was, as far as can be seen, accepted as obvious).

In spite of the explanatory efforts of the prime minister's office, it was difficult not to wonder whether the personal links between Begin and As-Sadat are a sufficient guarantee to iron out the expected wrinkles in the negotiations over the autonomy, just as it was hard to accept the claim that the composition of the negotiating committee is satisfactory. Without arguing about the ability of any one of the members of the committee of six to conduct negotiations over the autonomy with Egyptian and U.S. representatives, it is impossible to accept as simple the assumption that the above-mentioned team of statesmen who have to conduct the most complicated negotiations should spill over into a committee made up of six ministers.

It was not only the framework founded this week to conduct the negotiations that aroused wonder, but also the report that, for the moment, there is nobody in the Cabinet who knows how to confirm just what the autonomy is. On the surface, there is a 26-clause document reporting Israel's intentions regarding the autonomy regime due to be applied to Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Except that within the 26 clauses many alternative programs are buried--according to the tastes of their proofreaders.

There are those in the Cabinet who regard the autonomy program as a sort of operational tool that will permit the State of Israel to in fact annex the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. There are those who see the program as a proposal for a transition-regime leaving open options regarding the final future of the area. There are those who want to see the autonomy program as a framework for bearable life together for Jews and Arabs and there are those who want to get it off the discussion table as quickly as possible. At any rate, for the moment there is no crystallized government position regarding the image of the autonomy regime Israel wants to run in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and which will be up for bargaining with Egypt and the United States.

Several documents about the image of the autonomy were given to the prime minister by some of the ministers. Messrs Hayim Landau, Ari'el Sharon and the three National Religious Party [NRP] ministers submitted position papers, in varying degrees of detail, which were intended to guarantee full Israeli control over the components of life in the autonomy. Although these three proposals are not identical, their principles resemble each other. According to these programs, the State of Israel will keep control over the water sources and the public land reserves in the autonomy regions, guarantee free movement of Israelis in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, will keep security and police control in its hands, will create guarantees for broadening the Jewish presence in the autonomy districts and will create the legal and police tools which will prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state.

The recommendations of the Ben-Elisar committee, which will apparently serve as a sort of Shulhan 'Arukh [the last codex of Halakhic laws compiled by Rabbi Yosef Karo in the 16th century] which will pilot Israel's position in the negotiations over the autonomy, are in a similar prophetic spirit. This week Moshe Dayan submitted a proposal of his own principles and it may be guessed that it is more moderate than the above-mentioned proposals and more considerate of the expectations of Egypt, the United States and the Arab inhabitants of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. 'Ezer Weizman also has views of his own about the character of the autonomy, but he has not yet submitted them to the prime minister.

According to the composition of the committee of six it appears that Dayan and Weizman will find themselves in the minority.

If the evaluation that the foreign minister and the minister of defense see the autonomy regime in a way more acceptable in the eyes of the Egyptians and the local Arabs is correct, their positions will not have sufficient weight in the current team of the committee of six. Burg, Sharon, Tamir and Nisim will apparently present views in the spirit of the position papers referred to above. The minister of agriculture's views are known, the views of the minister of the interior are drawn from the recognized decisions of the NRP leadership, while Messrs Tamir and Nisim are becoming more and more noticeably bargainers from the intransigent camp in the Cabinet of Israel. And thus it is likely to emerge that Yiga'el Yadin and Simha Ehrlich, who gave up their places in the committee of six in favor of their colleagues, will find themselves in an embarrassing position when their envoys do not actually present their [Yadin's and Ehrlich's] own views.

The political justification for this order of affairs--the composition of the committee of six, the procedure for dealing with the negotiations on the autonomy, the complete fog regarding the image of the autonomy regime over which Israel will be bargaining--can be found in the composition of the Cabinet and the positions of its parties. Judaea and Samaria are the apple of the Likud government's eye and it will declare that it will take care to keep these areas in Israel's possession and not let them be taken away from it because of the peace treaty with Egypt. The great sensitivity about the future of these districts, the ideological differences of opinion within the government regarding the nature of the autonomy regime and its destiny (the Likud and the NRP on the one hand and the Democrats on the other) and, especially the personal differences of approach of Cabinet members to this matter, which are creating high mutual suspicion, explain the complicated mechanism founded this week.

A government whose members are divided among themselves over the need for settlement; a government whose members, within each one of its parties, have different views on the objective of the autonomy regime; a government whose ministers do not have only one view of the nature of the link between the State of Israel and the areas of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza is forced to impose on itself a procedure of debates comparable to a chain of padlocks, each of which locks the other.

The understanding of the internal political force which creates an intransigent and perhaps even barren set of debates of this sort, does not solve the external difficulty confronting Israel: competing in a complicated political campaign with Egypt, the United States and the Western countries. This campaign will turn on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, regarding which, according to the peace agreement, there is a "linkage" between a change in their status and the creation of the situation of peace between Israel and Egypt. Will the chain by which the government bound itself this week in creating a complicated mechanism for conducting the negotiations permit it the freedom of movement needed for its political struggle?

HA'ARETZ CORRESPONDENT FAVORS AUTONOMY IN GAZA

TA191756 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Apr 79 p 9 TA

[Ze'ev Schiff article: "In Favor of an Autonomy in the Gaza Strip"]

[Text] The estimations among security and other government circles concerning the chances for realizing what was called in the Camp David agreements "a full autonomy" in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are far from optimistic. This is because the differences of opinion on this issue are so great that there is hardly a chance of bringing all the participants--Israel, the local inhabitants, Jordan and Egypt "and other Palestinians," as stated in the agreement--to one common denominator.

The situation is particularly grave with respect to Judaea and Samaria. The chance there is even slighter because there won't be anyone to carry out the autonomy with. Neither the local inhabitants, nor Jordan or "the other Palestinians" are prepared to accept the autonomy as proposed by Israel or even to conduct negotiations with it on this issue. Israel, on the other hand, is not prepared to conduct negotiations with the PLO representatives, even on an autonomy as Israel understands it.

These security elements which oppose the autonomy because of the dangers concealed in it, in their opinion, to the State of Israel are not sorry that the chances for the negotiations are poor. But there is yet another view in the security establishment, the one which maintains that the moderate Palestinians and the inhabitants of the territories must be shown that Israel's intentions are sincere and that there is a way out. One way or the other, it is clear that the moment the autonomy negotiations get bogged down, Egypt, Israel and the United States will have to focus on the alternative of implementing the autonomy only in the Gaza Strip, as the first stage.

What is the argument against an autonomy only in the Gaza Strip, or first in the Gaza Strip? An autonomy in the Gaza Strip might serve as a model for the West Bank, the objectors explain. This argument smacks of "ill intentions" toward the entire autonomy, precisely on the part of the government that proposed it. Those who argue thus are not afraid that the model in the Gaza Strip might be bad, but fear the opposite situation, that the Gaza Strip will be a success. Then the inhabitants of the West Bank might reconsider their views and cooperate to reach a similar achievement, that is, it is better to have rejectionism expressed by the inhabitants of the Gaza Strip. Then the current situation would remain unchanged as per the Camp David accords.

As opposed to this view, it is clear that there are good reasons why the autonomy in the Gaza Strip should be implemented. Naturally, this is assuming that the Israeli Cabinet sincerely intends to do so and does not want to make the autonomy plan--as it had agreed upon it at Camp David--fail from the start. Personally, I would like to see, as a second stage, a territorial compromise which would resolve our defense apprehensions. However, under the current circumstances, I believe that the proposal to focus on the Gaza Strip has various advantages, which are:

--The security dangers concealed in the autonomy in the Gaza Strip, even if it is "a full autonomy," are much smaller than the dangers expected in the West Bank. The Gaza Strip area is isolated and relatively small. The only border this area will have with an Arab country will be with a country that has already signed a peace agreement with us. Besides, there will be a wide buffer zone beyond the border, which will also be demilitarized. This is not the case in the West Bank.

--The problem of the Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip is not as acute as in Judaea and Samaria. There are not that many vast expanses there and the goal in that area is more to flesh out existing Israeli settlements. Hence, this issue will not serve as the great stumbling block that it is in the West Bank.

--The IDF does not intend to hold massive exercises for its units in the Gaza Strip because the areas there are more limited; the deployment of forces could be more convenient and unobstrusive there. It will be sufficient to have a certain deployment along the border (instead of the Rafah approaches settlements which Israel has conceded) and a few along the coast, near Israeli settlements.

This is not the case in the West Bank, where the IDF must deploy in the fact of the strengthening eastern front in order to defend our vital goals along the coastal strip.

--The Egyptian influence in the Gaza Strip is greater and therefore there are also greater chances of neutralizing the PLO and extremist elements in that area.

--In the Gaza Strip, more than in the West Bank, many Arab inhabitants have a lot to lose in the event that there is a total split with Israel. After the suppression of terrorism in the strip, there was an impressive improvement in the standard of living of the refugees there. It is conceivable that as a second stage they will be prepared to accept a regional autonomy.

--The success of the autonomy in the Gaza Strip will provide Egypt with an important "chip" in the Arab world. It will be able to prove that it has done something for those Palestinians who are prepared to cooperate in the peace process.

--Those who oppose the establishment of a Palestinian state will also be able to support that idea. The differentiation between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank--when in one there is an autonomy and in the other some sort of a status quo--divides these territories and draws the Palestinian populations living them apart.

If the autonomy in the Gaza Strip succeeds, it might open up another non-aggressive alternative for the Palestinians. Such a moderate option should be in Israel's interest. It is not enough to say "no" to the PLO; it is also necessary to indicate which Palestinians we are prepared to deal with, and what we will discuss--"no" to the PLO, but "yes" to the Palestinians, provided they are prepared to give up PLO goals.

It is unlikely that a Palestinian state might grow out of an autonomy in the Gaza Strip. On the other hand, there are chances that moderate elements might grow out of the Palestinains in that area, realpolitik forces like the ones that existed in the Jewish community in Palestine during the 30's and 40's; leaders who are prepared to make do with little and adapt themselves to reality.

Such acceptance was not only shared by Ben-Gurion and his colleagues, who were happy to accept the partition plan, but also by Begin and his friends, who were prepared to ignore the slogan of "The Jordan River Has Two Banks." Only through such a slow approach will the moderate Palestinians have a chance to appease the Israeli fears and convince them that after the interim period, common arrangements may be possible; arrangements which will apply to the main vital interests of both sides. This slow beginning, stages, would have been better made in the Gaza Strip, and not in Judaea and Samaria.

SHARON DECLARES NEW GOLAN SETTLEMENTS TO BE ESTABLISHED

TA191656 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 19 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The Cabinet has decided to establish four new settlements on the Golan Heights. This was reported by Minister Sharon this afternoon at a meeting on the Golan with representatives of the settlers in the area. He pointed out that at one time the Cabinet decided to establish two settlements, one in Brikhat Ram and the other in the ('Aisha) area. Now this decision will be carried out in the wake of an agreement achieved with the Druze in the region.

Today a decision was made on the establishment of another two settlements, one in the (Sakhikh) area and the other near the meeting point of the borders between Israel, Jordan and Syria.

Minister Sharon said that the government's official position is that Israel will not leave the Golan Heights even if a peace agreement with Syria is obtained. He pointed out that he was saying this with the agreement and approval of the prime minister. According to him, he heard remarks in this spirit today from the foreign minister as well.

As for Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, the minister of agriculture said he was in favor of continuity between the settlements in the West Bank and the Jordan Rift Valley and the rest of the country's areas. The status of these settlements should be the same as that of the settlements within the green line.

On the matter of the Druze in the Golan Heights, Minister Sharon said that he believed that the Cabinet would decide that any Druze interested in Israeli citizenship would receive it. Our correspondent comments that 350 Druze from the Golan Heights have requested Israeli citizenship so far.

Democratic Ministers Protest

TA191319 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Apr 79 p 4 TA

[By Avraham Tirosh]

[Excerpt] The settlement issue was the main topic of the conversation held on 19 April between the three Democratic Movement ministers and Prime Minister Menahem Begin. The democratic ministers wanted to exercise their right, based on the Coalition agreement with the [former] DMC, to pass on to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee all plans for settlement, while Mr Begin tried to persuade them not to insist on this demand.

It seems that at this time it has been agreed that the democrats will not try to transfer the settlement issue to the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, probably because it was made clear to them that no settlements to which they object would be established in the near future. The democrats have no objection to settlements in the Jordan Valley stemming from security considerations and neither do they have any objection to fleshing out existing settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

However, they expressed strong objection to settlements which are a demonstrative show and also opposed publicizing them unnecessarily. In their opinion, all this should be avoided as it might harm the normalization and improvement of relations with Egypt.

The Democratic Movement ministers were also worried about promises given to the NRP [National Religious Party] and to Gush Emunim concerning settlements. They fear that from now on, and during the autonomy discussions, they will be isolated in their views concerning the settlements and the nature of the autonomy. Deputy Prime Minister Prof Yiga'el Yadin clarified that he did not intend to submit his own autonomy plan and that as far as he was concerned the basis of the autonomy plan is the 26 articles included in the peace plan presented by the prime minister.

KHOMEYNI: COMMITTEES TO STAY UNTIL PEOPLE DISARMED

LD191412 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, told the heads of 14 Tehran committees this morning: The committee must remain in force until the authority of the government is established, and the sign of this authority is success in disarming the people. The committees need to be purged and abolished. The committees will not remain even 1 day after disarmament is achieved.

He continued: Reform the committees. Put aside seditionists, and invite competent individuals to work. Those who do not want Iran's interests to be discussed, are even now attempting to create differences among the clergy, so that they may achieve their aims; and one can foresee that they will aggravate such differences in the future.

Imam Khomeyni said: Some people on behalf of foreigners, and most probably Americans, see it as their duty not to allow Iran to be calm and work toward progress. Creating tumult regarding the committees is no new matter. The aim of the opposition is to discredit anybody who wants to serve the people.

When the opposition saw that we are attempting to achieve some results for the people, they intensify their opposition. Our criticism is that they are ill-intentioned. If they discover a weak point, the ill-intentioned exploit it, and the fault-finders seek any pretext to hold rallies and demonstrations. How can anybody who does not believe in God demonstrate in support of, or sympathize with, a believer? We shall not remove the guardians; thus, the way will not be opened to enmity. On the contrary, we will strengthen the guardians and the committees until the day the government is able to run the country's affairs firmly. And the sign of the government's power is their achievement of total disarmament throughout Iran.

Further Reports

LD192016 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, spoke with the heads of 14 Tehran committees this morning. He said to them: Everyone knows that until the victory of the revolution and the expulsion of satanic forces, a certain amount of turmoil will persist. Everyone knows that when these disorders arose there were no security forces, and the guards managed to prevent trouble as much as possible, and now that the security forces are being formed the guards and the committees must continue their duties until the day when the armed forces are able to disarm all the evildoers and the troublemakers.

The Imam added: Some groups are creating sedition among the people; they go to the factories and make evil propaganda; and they do not want the agricultural policies to be correctly administered. They do not want the schools to reopen. They want the present chaos to continue unabated and, eventually, they will make it possible for the foreigners to have the opportunity to say that Iran cannot maintain order; they want to bring about a situation in which, God forbid, they can carry out a coup d'etat in Iran.

The imam added: So long as these people in various groups spread evil propaganda among the people, we need the committees and the guards. No one can deny that until the government is powerful enough to disarm them, we have a vital need for the committees and the guards. The imam added: The difficulty is that throughout Iran, from time to time, we find provocateurs among the members of the committees who do things which are against Islamic law and are counterrevolutionary. The imam added: You should think of how and in what way we can reform the committees of the country, especially in each city where there are a number of influential people, those with turbans, and those without turbans, and the number of committees equals the number of these people, each of which is opposed to the other, resulting in actions which are against Islam and the revolution. We should remedy the defects. The very existence of the committees and the Revolutionary Guards is necessary, and until the government is in control they should exist.

The imam, thanking the committees, said: Individuals and groups should go to ask various people about the activities and observe the works of the committees so that any provocateurs may be dismissed or, if necessary, punished. If this purge takes place, there will be less criticism directed toward them.

Those who have evil intentions, who are looking for excuses and take part in demonstrations, and spread evil propaganda against the committees, are they doing this for the sake of Ayatollah Taleqani? Are they fond of Ayatollah Taleqani? These people who do not believe in God, have they done this for the sake of Ayatollah Taleqani, who believes in God and is a spiritual person, or is it their intention to foist an unhealthy environment upon us? These people make a show of affection for the people. Was the referendum against the people to the extent that they should set fire to some of the ballot boxes? Do they want Iran to be a good ntry? The people who have shown their opposition are not even half a percent of the population. We saw them defeated in the referendum and we know they have no place in the people's hearts. Their masters provide them with their needs so they can cause turmoil. Was agriculture against the interests of the people so much so they should not allow the farmers to work?

These people have evil intentions for the nation, and these problems show that a group of people have been given a mission by foreigners, and most likely by the Americans, not to let Iran live in peace. Each day they bring up another problem. Now that the problem of Mr Taleqani is solved, tomorrow they will find another cause for revolt. They do not want our country to be in our own hands.

Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, went on to speak about the role of the spiritual leaders. He said: It was the prophets who woke up the masses against the governments, and in the history of Islam it was His Holiness the Prophet who awakened the masses to arise against the powerful.

Imam Khomeyni said in conclusion: We will strengthen the committees and the Revolutionary Guards until the government becomes powerful, and the sign of the power of the government is the achievement of the disarmament of the people, so that nowhere in the country are there communists or groups who operate in the name of the masses or factions which are harmful to Islam.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES BAZARGAN, CABINET, TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES

LD191922 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The Council of Ministers, led by Mehdi Bazargan, was received by the imam this evening. In the course of the meeting current issues were discussed.

Afterwards, representatives of tribes from Dasht-e Moghan, (Arshad), (Ajarud), Arasbaran, Ardabil and Khalkhal as well as the representatives of villagers from Torkaman Rud and the Ahvaz steelworkers were received by the imam.

TALEQANI COMMENTS ON ABDUCTION, VOICES SUPPORT FOR KHOMEYNI

LD192052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1715 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpts] His Eminence the Ayatollah Taleqani has made a speech about the events of the past few days, his sons and the current events in the country. We now draw your attention to the speech:

[Taleqani--begin recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

On Thursday, an unexpected event occurred, an event that has caused certain anxieties for me. This was (?not) because of the problem created for my sons. Rather, it troubled me because I thought there might be a plot behind this, either within or from outside Iran, and that this might lead to other incidents in the capital city. Before this incident I was like a person in a pleasant dream, feeling calm after months of discomfort, anxiety and worry. Suddenly, I was rudely awakened to face a grave problem. This had been a pleasant sleep: I saw the situation in Sanandaj being handled in a correct and popular manner; I felt the anxiety experienced by everyone being gradually resolved. Then there was the problem of Gonbad-e Kavus.

All these events were a source of pleasure to me. We also had certain worries about other regions in Iran, but again we received reports about measures to eliminate worries and reach understanding with the people. I also had the feeling that the government was gradually gaining control of the situation and that it was ready to implement its constructive programs. This, too, contributed to the diminishing of my worries. Then, suddenly, I faced this problem--that is, the kidnapping of my sons in broad daylight, and that after a meeting between the Palestinian representative and my own representative. This worried me. I had the feeling that the same matches that lit a flame in Sanandaj and another in Gonbad-e Kavus were now being used here.

In order to allow the government, the authorities, the revolutionary council and the committees to investigate the problem accurately, with understanding and divorced from emotions, I deemed it advisable to leave Tehran for a few days and to close the offices so that the various arrivals and referrals by various individuals, some of whom were unknown, to my residence might be prevented. As these could have led to provocations among those who were serving the people from my residence with understanding and sincerity and eventually to other incidents.

Unfortunately, my absence of a few days resulted in remarks, speculations, and was diversely interpreted by certain groups, wittingly, or unwittingly. What has been reported in the press is to a great extent true. However, that is not the whole story.

Consequently, I began to get worried, lest my absence, though aimed at correcting the situation, might lead to other problems and consequences. While I was away, my children were in touch with my friends and colleagues in Tehran, and therefore we were able to study the situation objectively. Then I was informed that the ayatollah's liberal son had come to Tehran and wanted to raise certain points. My initial impression was that he had come to Tehran to placate me. However, when it was reported that he wished to discuss a certain issue, he came to me and conveyed the ayatollah's worries. Subsequently, following his remarks that my absence might lead to other problems, I accompanied him to Qom to meet the Ayatollah Khomeyni, especially in view of my own eagerness to see him.

Not only have we, but the entire world has accepted His Great Eminence Khomeyni's leadership. News agency correspondents who speak of us are awed by this leadership and the revolution. Muslims and liberals throughout the world have also realized that this kind of leadership is rather unusual and that it does not correspond to the standards familiar to the world. This is a leadership based on faith, virtue, deliverance, sincerity and decisiveness. My acquaintance with the Ayatollah Khomeyni is not new. I have known him for many years, even since we were both theological students. I have been familiar with his virtues and piety and [word indistinct]. During the years when he began his struggle, I have always supported his struggle, his utterances, his speeches and his slogans. All his doings have had my support.

Consequently, those who want to sow discord, who want to take advantage of the situation, whether wittingly or unwittingly, should rest assured that as long as I am alive.... [sentence left incomplete] As I have stated in the past, there is no disagreement between us on principles and policies and the desire to bring the revolution to fruition, especially in view of the fact that I have repeatedly expressed my views about his leadership and have accepted his decisive leadership. I have always tried to be a part of the policy of this great personality, a personality who is the pride of the (?hearts) of Islam.

Another problem involves these committees and the guardians of the revolution. Remarks have been made and reports have been published in the press attacking them. I believe that these attacks are either based on lack of sufficient information or stem from self-seeking motives.

Indeed, there are certain irresponsible individuals who have infiltrated these committees, especially during the past few weeks, and have carried out certain tasks. We have even gone to private houses collecting money, without bothering to give any reciepts. We are aware of these acts. However, such acts have nothing to do with the principles adhered to by the committees or the faithful and genuine members of the guardians of the revolution. [end recording]

SHARI'AT-MADARI INTERVIEWED BY SOVIET CORRESPONDENTS

LD191724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] His Great Eminence Shari'at-Madari, in an interview with correspondents of the Soviet mass media, asked the Soviet Government to prevent the Afghan Government's harsh treatment of the Muslims and Muslim personalities and thinkers of that country. Shari'at-Madari yesterday met representatives of TASS and correspondents of the two famous newspapers IZVESTIYA and PRAVDA, and answered their questions.

In this interview he was asked about relations between Iran and the USSR. Shari'at-Madari said: The USSR has about 2,500 km of common border with its neighbor Iran. Therefore, we want to be friends with you and have friendly relations, although we are mainly Muslims and the majority of the people of your country are not Muslims. But this should not prevent relations and mutual cooperation in political, economic and social fields. We are particularly thankful that the USSR, at the time of the struggles of the Iranian nation against the tyranny and dictatorship of the former shah and his agents, took the side of our nation and regarded as right the struggles of the Muslim masses of Iran. In addition to this, in our religion respect for neighbors receives much emphasis. And we are told that we should treat them favorably. This is also emphasized in the Koran.

Shari'at-Madari went on to say: We expect the USSR to show greater respect for the religion of the 45 million Muslims of that country and allow them greater freedom. Of course, in the past, some people used to do certain things in Iran and they gave the impression that they were related to the USSR, and it was believed that their actions were not unconnected with foreign intrigues, and they were intent on destroying friendly neighborliness between Iran and the USSR.

But that period is now past, and the Iranian nation wants to hold its destiny in its own hands and have friendly and good relations with its neighbors, including the USSR. Obviously, these relations should be mutual. Shari'at-Madari added: Recently, we heard a [words indistinct] that through the common borders of the Iranian and Russian Azarbayjan, especially from the area of Kavkaz, a large number of armaments was distributed among the people of Ahar and Arasbaran to nullify the revolution of the Iranian nation, but later it was made clear that this was merely a rumor put about by the counterrevolutionary elements and the opponents of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It is surprising that it should be possible for us both to enjoy goodneighborliness and friendly relations and at the same time attempts should be made to instigate revolt and interfere in the internal affairs of another country. Let me also tell you this, that the Islamic government will never indulge in deceit or hypocrisy in its relations with other countries, and if the Islamic government establishes friendly relations with another government, the appearance is the same as the reality, and there will not be any deceit; because Islam is a religion of truth and purity and honesty.

This is why we expect the Soviet Government to fully observe the goodneighborliness which exists between us and to facilitate openings for both countries in the political, commercial and cultural spheres, and for the slightest aggression against Iranian soil never to be seen or heard. The two nations of Iran and USSR should shake hands in friendship with each other and should fully observe international principles in goodneighborliness and mutual respect. Our other expectation from the Soviet Government is that it should not allow the Government of Afghanistan to deal harshly with the Muslims of that country and the Islamic personalities and thinkers of Afghanistan.

Elsewhere in his interview, Shari'at-Madari said: I give you this advice as a human being and for the sake of the defense of humanity. It is in the best interests of the USSR and Afghanistan to let the nation of Afghanistan live in peace within its framework of Islamic principles.

The reporters from TASS and the two newspapers IZVESTIYA, and PRAVDA then asked about cultural relations between Iran and the USSR. Shari'at-Madari said in reply: All is possible with good neighborliness and mutual understanding. At the end the Ayatollah asked the correspondents about Ziyautdin Babakhanov, the Muslim leader in the USSR. The correspondents answered that last year during the Islamic revolution of Iran they were in Tehran in the presence of Mr Babakhanov and wanted to come to see him in Qom, but the government of the former shah prevented this visit.

ENVOY TO USSR SPEAKS ON GAS PRICES, RETURNING NATIONALS

LD191452 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Dr Mohammad Mokri, ambassador of the Government of the Iranian Islamic Republic to the USSR, went to Qom before his departure for Moscow to take up his duties there, to bid the Imam farewell and to deliver to him the necessary reports. He held talks and exchanged views for more than 1 hour with His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution.

Folloiwng the meeting, in an interview with PARS, Dr Mokri described the outcome of his meeting with the imam as very fruitful and said: the policy of the Government of the Iranian Islamic Republic is based on reciprocal friendship with all countries of the world and on nonalinement. It is noteworthy that, apart from the 2-3 years of the government of the late Dr Mosaddeq, the government of Engineer Bazargan is the first Iranian national government in this century. Since I am going to the Soviet Union as the first ambassador of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we will try to develop all-round and goodneighborly relations between the two countries.

He added: I do not think our relations with the Soviet Union are anything other than good, and since Iran will no lonber be an anti-Soviet base we expect our friendship to be mutual and reciprocal.

He said: We are confident that should there by any probably undermining of this friendship it would no doubt not emanate from friendly states [as heard].

Dr Mokri added: In the past, relations between Iran and the Soviet Union were exclusively between the Pahlavi family and that country, but now these relations are between one nation and another.

Regarding the existing agreement between Iran and other countries, particularly those concluded between Iran and the Soviet Union, Dr Mokri said: We will try to honor all the agreements we have with other countries provided our nation's interests are protected and safeguarded in them. Some of the agreements, such as that on gas are expected to be revised to our advantage, because prices are constantly rising, and this also applies to gas.

He pointed out: We will study in depth the matter of Iranians residing in the Soviet Union, and the government of Mr Bazargan will make serious decisions in this regard, so that those Iranians who intend to return home may return home under a certain set of criteria.

ABADAN ATTACKS AS-SADAT FOR HIS REMARKS ON ISLAM

JN192007 Abadan International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Egyptian ruler has spoken [words indistinct]. He has spoken after concluding the capitulatory treaty, after disgracing Sinai, after burdening the Muslim people with the treaty of humiliation and subjugation, after laying siege to the Egyptian people, after planting Israeli conspiracies in the heart of Cairo. After all this, As-Sadat spoke at the 'Ayn Shame University to unveil his latest capitulatory technique. This technique consists of a blatant and vile campaign against Islam. This pleases the enemies of Islam, the Zionists and the imperialists. Israel will never again find an agent and pawn as manipulatable as As-Sadat.

The victorious Islamic revolution has undoubtedly increased As-Sadat's complexes, because it brought down the terrible Zionist and imperialist pawn, threw the colonialist equations into history's garbage bin and deprived As-Sadat of the bastion of agentry on which he had relied, thus causing him to lose his balance.

As-Sadat spoke at 'Ayn Shams, saying that Islam is not in harmony with the present era, that the religion of all the ages is not suitable for this age. As-Sadat made such a statement because he is aware that he would have no place, no room to move or even breathe in an Islamic government. Islam is the religion of firm faith, the religion of freedom and dignity and not that of capitulation to the enemies of the people and God. Islam is a religion of creed and jihad, not a religion of humiliation and disgrace. No wonder As-Sadat vainly tries to harm the Iranian people's victory and their Islamic revolution, for he is hearing its echoes within the heart of Cairo and not externally. He is hearing its echoes in Asyut and in all the corners of Egypt. There can be no wonder in all of this. His attempt to shut out these sounds will not save him, for the echo is thunderous and calls for purging the land of Islam of tyranny, of the fifth of agentry and capitulation to the enemies of Islam. The echo is thunderous because it is the voice of Islam, the voice of the Islamic revolution. It is also no wonder that this culprit defends the criminals who destroyed the Iranian economy and rendered the Iranian policy a weapon against Islam and Muslims for 50 years, who distorted the Islamic culture in Iran, falsified history and trampled over the people's rights, dignity and freedom, sowing corruption throughout the noble Islamic society.

There is no wonder in this because As-Sadat knows very well that he is standing in a tight corner, from which he cannot escape. He also cannot escape his just punishment, for the will of the people is part of God's will, and though God postpones, He never forgets. Further, the Egyptian people will not forget even one of As-Sadat's crimes. The Islamic revolutionary potentials are opening new fronts of just struggle and jihad in Egypt every day. Tomorrow is not far away for those who persevere.

1,000 ROK WORKERS TO LEAVE IN NEXT FEW DAYS

LD191652 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Mr Foruhar, the minister of labor and social affairs, and the ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Iran, today discussed paving the ground in the technical field and technological cooperation and matters relating to Iranian and Korean workers. The Korean ambassador praised the establishment of the Iranian Islamic Republic and expressed the hope that relations between the two countries will continue to strengthen.

It appears that in the light of the extensive cooperation existing between the two countries in labor and employment affairs, more than 1,000 Korean workers who are currently working in Iran will leave Iran by 21 April. This group will be leaving Iran following the departure of a large number of Korean workers.

ABADAN'S OIL INDUSTRY AUTHORITY MEMBERS RESIGN EN MASSE

JN191351 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1240 GMT 19 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Tehran, 19 April--The chairman and members of the oil industry authority in Abadan tendered their mass resignation yesterday as a result of numerous demands and so-called pressures from the workers.

This was reported by the paper AYANDEGAN today. The paper was quoting NIOC Chairman Hasan Nazih, after his meeting with representatives of oil industry workers and employees in Abadan.

Nazih said that the problem now facing them is their inability to keep reliable people. He said that the behavior of some of these people is being investigated so that they can be dismissed.

SANANDAJ LOCAL COUNCILLORS ELECTED

LD191504 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpts] The Ministry of the Interior has announced the results of the elections of the 11-member local council of Sanandaj.

In the Interior Ministry announcement it is noted that the composition of those elected, and the participation of more than 70 percent of the eligible voters in this election is an indication of the maturity and feeling of deep responsibility of the people of Sanandaj in determining their destiny, and this heralds the Iranian people's victory in accomplishing their social commitments.

We beseech the Almighty God that the respected people of Sanandaj, while living fraternally with each other, maintain their sincere cooperation with the governor general to solve their problems, and continue their cooperation in an atmosphere of understanding.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON TRIALS, ARRESTS, EXECUTIONS

Soldier Executed

LD200750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 20 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The sentence of execution of the Revolutionary Islamic Court of Qahramanshahr, the former Kermanshah, regarding the conscript army soldier Tajgholi Gorganli Doychi was carried out in this city.

Police Official

LD191105 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The former Lt Gen Fazlollah Ja'fari, the former deputy head of the so-called Joint Countersubversion Committee and former acting head of the National Police Department, is right now being tried in the second bench of the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court. Extensive cooperation with SAVAK, using torture, participation, in and having something to do with the so-called Joint Countersubversion Committee, crushing and torturing people and sowing corruption on earth, and waging war against God, the messenger of God and the people are among the charges brought against the former Lt Gen Fazlollah Ja'farim, by the judiciary of the Tehran Islamic Revolution.

Fars SAVAK Chief

LD191120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The final session of the court hearing on Mohammad Taqi Javan, the former SAVAK chief of Fars Province, and (?collaborator) of Parvis Sabeti [SAVAK officer] went into deliberation at 1845 after hearing the last defense plea of the accused. In the course of his last defense plea, the accused, while accepting the charges brought against him, clarified certain important matters relating to SAVAK. Mohammad Taqi Javan pleaded with the judges of the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court for mercy and clemency.

The justices of the court of Islamic justice are at the moment busy with their deliberations to decide on punishment for Mohammad Taqi Javan, the former SAVAK chief of Fars.

Kermanshah 'Clergyman' Defrocked

LD191412 Tehran Domestric Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The Kermanshah Islamic Revolutionary Court has sentenced a pseudoclergyman, (Seyyed Fakhroleslam), known as [name indistinct] to be defrocked on charges of having delivered a speech in support of the former regime. The court verdict was immediately carried out in the court yesterday. According to a PARS report from Kermanshah, the court hearing of four clergymen and two military personnel is also continuing in the Kermanshah Islamic Revolutionary Court.

Malayer Police Officers

LD181420 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The court of Islamic justice of Malayer has sentenced to death Lt (Hoseyn Shokri), the former warden of the Malayer Police Department, and Lt (Mohammad Taqi Najafi), the head of the intelligence office of the Malayer Police Department. The sentence was carried out this morning.

At the same time, Capt (Mohammad Hoseyn Bahrami), the former head of the local traffic police, was sentenced to 3 years in jail; police warrant officer (Morad Vafai) to 1 year in jail; police warrant officer (Manucher Karimpur) to 6 months in jail; and warrant police officer(Nureddin Fallahi), police constable (Hashem Shokri), and warrant officer ('Ali Fazeli) were sentenced to 3 months in jail.

The court also ordered the dismissal from service of (Morad Khanjani). Police warrant officer (Hasan Shahreza), warrant police officer (Gholam Reza Sadeqi), police constable (Farhang Farahani) and (?Abbas Mardomi)--all officers in the Malayer Police Department--were exonorated of charges and these people were reinstated after taking the oath of loyalty to the Islamic republican regime.

LEADER OF KORDESTAN PARTY DISCUSSES AUTONOMY

LD191511 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 13 Apr 79 p 3 LD

[Siegmund Ginzberg undated interview in Mahabad, Iran with Abdol Rahman Qassemlu, "secretary of the Democratic Party of Iranian Kordestan": "Kurdish Spring"]

[Excerpt] The Kurds are not separatists. They very much emphasize the fact that they are struggling not to gain independence from Iran but for autonomy: Foreign policy, defense of the borders and the army should be the concerns of central government; but other issues should be entrusted to an autonomous local government. "We have tried," Abdol Rahman Qhassemlu, secretary of the Democratic Party of Iranian Kordestan, told us, "to explain this to Imam Khomeyni. He listened to us with much goodwill. It seems he understood the difference between separatism and autonomy. Then he told us that the issue must be taken up with the government. We met with a government delegation headed by Engineer Bazargan. We feel that he also understood. For the first time, following this meeting, the word autonomy was spoken, indicating that at last it was regarded as a real problem. Now discussions are going on. We do not have any false hopes. It will not be easy to reach a positive conclusion. But this in itself is a major step forward."

"Thanks to our party's strongly established position, we have so far avoided any recurrence elsewhere of what happened at Sanandaj. We did not vote in the referendum because after what had happened we could not ask the Kurdish people to say yes to an Islamic Republic of whose intentions regarding whether or not to satisfy our demands we still know nothing. But we are convinced that there is scope for these demands to be accepted. Moreover, we are convinced that as long as the stronghold of Kordestan remains, it will also be a guarantee of democracy and of the consolidation of the revolution throughout the best of Iran."

At Sanandaj there were over 100 dead and hundreds of wounded. "Yes, there was a confrontation. There we failed to defuse the detonator set in motion by the forces of the old regime, which still operate within the army, and by certain extremist components present among the Kurds. Furthermore, the episode took the form of a clash between religious factions: the Shi'ites, represented by regular troops and by the Imam's committees, and the Sunnites, represented by Moftizadeh. Let us be clear: This could have happened and could still happen elsewhere as well. Many regular army garrisons, as far as Sanandaj in the south and from Reza'iyeh (now Rumieh) to Tabriz in the north, remained intact during the uprising. In Sanandaj 17 officers were expelled, because they were suspected of sympathizing with the Kurds. Elsewhere some officers came and told us that their commanding general had gathered them together to plan an attack on the Kurds 'who want to separate from Iran.' Rumieh narrowly missed the same thing that happened in Sanandaj, when the army chief consigned 1,000 rifles to the Turks instead of the Kurds. We saved no less than three garrisons when the heat was really on. It is true: We are strong and armed and we could wipe out all the garrisons in 48 hours. But then what? No, we are a responsible party, we must be more farsighted. They say that the revolution is over: We say that it is still going on--for democracy throughout Iran, first, and then for autonomy for Kordestan."

We realized what Kurdish democrats mean by "democracy throughout Iran" when we noticed that at every intersection in Mahabad (which has just over 50,000 inhabitants) every political force is free to distribute whatever propaganda material it pleases. There are the Tudeh people, distributing NOVID, there are the Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq and the Muslims of the "komitehs." The revolutionary committee that controls the city was not elected by the imam of the mosque but by taking all the components into account: It is headed by a Sunni religious leader. Its deputy chairman is Blurian, a legendary Kurdish combatant of the democratic party.

"We believe," Qassemlu stresses, "that the only possibility of advancing the revolution lies in believing in and instilling a belief in democracy. The other day in Tehran we had a meeting with the students at the university. They asked us several questions. One of them was as follows: You talk about democracy, but what kind of democracy is it? We believe in democracy, period, we replied--a democracy without any adjectives, such as bourgeois, socialist or Islamic. Kordestan is neither the property nor the monopoly of our party. All the organizations can work side by side. For instance, the Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq came from Tehran. They wanted an office here and we let them establish one, though the religious leaders were against it. They wanted to organize a demonstration for the unemployed. We persuaded them not to hold it. Who, we asked them, is really capable at present of giving work to the unemployed? If you do go ahead, at best you will prompt a reaction opposite to the one you intended. They approached the peasants and told them to occupy the land: This time it was the peasants themselves who replied: If we do occupy the land who will come to defend us when the soldiers come to take it back from us? Some people look at them askance because they are not Kurds, but we intend to defend to the last their freedom of political activity, like anybody else's."

AFGHANISTAN

NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT COMMUNIQUE CLAIMS VICTORIES

OW191815 Hong Kong AFP in English 1807 GMT 19 Apr 79 OW

[By Jean-Francois le Mounier]

[Text] New Delhi, 19 Apr (AFP)--Muslim rebels fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan Government have captured several military positions in the past week, the Afghan National Liberation Front said in a communique released here.

There has been heavy fighting between government forces and Muslim rebels opposed to the government of President Nur Mohammad Taraki, with major battles in the Kunar Valley and with daily air attacks. The government appeared to hold only the provincial capital of Chagai Sarai which is itself under siege, travellers from the region said.

The Muslim rebels claimed they killed 93 soldiers during an attack on Dadang in Paktia Province in eastern Afghanistan on April 11. They "liberated" the village, burnt the army posts, the school and the official buildings, the communique said. Two days later, the military post at Qadamo, also in Paktia, was destroyed with explosives by deserters fighting alongside Muslim guerrillas, said the front.

A new front against the government was opened on April 10 in Nangrahar Province, just east of Kabul, rebels said. There was heavy fighting at three villages in the province on Tuesday. Government aircraft killed a girl and wounded 40 women and children, the communique said. It added that four members of the ruling "Khalq" Party and a large number of weapons were captured by the Mujahidins.

The districts of Arghun and Zaivook in Paktia were captured last week by rebels who are now surrounding three government Army positions near Khost, the provincial capital 200 kilometers (120 miles) southeast of Kabul, concluded the communique.

TARAKI SENDS GREETINGS TO BREZHNEV ON REELECTION

BK200610 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 19 Apr 79 BK

[Text] The Information Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports that on behalf of Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council, a congratulatory telegram has been cabled to Moscow [words indistinct] His Excellency Leonid Brezhnev, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Supreme Presidium of the USSR on the occasion of his excellency's reelection (?to his post).

The telegram reads: Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, the Kremlin, Moscow. I am very happy to express my sincere and comradely congratulations and that of the Politburo and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan on the occasion of the reelection of you, honorable comrade, as the president of the Supreme Presidium of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics--which proves the show of confidence of the brethren Soviet people for you and your services--and to convey best wishes to your health and ever more successes.

I am certain that comradely relations and good neighborliness and peaceful cooperation between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the USSR has been further strengthened after the great Sawr Revolution and will expand further in the interest of the peoples of the two countries and the cause of world and global peace. With sincere and comradely regards,

[Signed] Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council.

Amin Congratulates Kosygin

BK200612 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 19 Apr 79 BK

[Text] The Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports that on behalf of Hafizollah Amin, lumlai wazir--that is, first minister--and minister of foreign affairs, a (?sincere) congratulatory telegram has been dispatched to His Excellency Aleksey Kosygin on his reelection as chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

The telegram reads: Comrade Aleksey Kosygin, the Kremlin, Moscow. On the occasion of your reelection, it starts, Dear Comrade, as the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, I personally extend comradely congratulations from myself and my colleagues to you and (?also) wish you good health and ever more success. I feel that, in the light of the victory of the great Sawr Revolution, good neighborly relations and all-sided cooperation between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the USSR in the interest of the peoples of the two countries and [word indistinct] all over the world will strengthen every day and will expand in the interest of lasting peace in the world.

With sincere and comradely regards,

[Signed] Hafizollah Amin, lumlai wazir and minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

INDIA

RAM ASSURES NO UNUSUAL MOVEMENT OF TROOPS ACROSS BORDER

BK200934 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Jagjivan Ram assured the Lok Sabha today that there has been no unusual concentration or movement of forces across our borders in recent weeks.

Dispelling any impression of such a development, the defense minister said that there is no cause for anxiety or concern on this score. Mr Jagjivan Ram was replying to a calling-attention motion on the reported massive arms buildup across the Indian borders. The motion was raised by Mr P. Rajagopal Naidu, Congress-I, and Mr B.K. Malhotra and Mr Kanwarlal Gupta, both Janata.

Mr Jagjivan Ram pointed out that the statement he made in Hyderabad recently only referred to the steady buildup of military capability that has been going on in some of our neighboring countries. Members drew the minister's attention to Pakistan's efforts to produce nuclear weapons and rapid improvement in China's communication facilities near our northern border. They wanted to know whether India would revise its nuclear policy in view of these developments.

The defense minister said that the developments do not warrant any change in our policy. He said that the government has taken note of these developments on the basis of continuous reviews. These are fully taken into account while drawing our defense plans and programs. Indian Armed Forces have proved their capability of defending our borders on several occasions. He assured the House that they are fully vigilant on the borders and maintain absolute defense preparedness at all times.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR WASHINGTON 20 APR

BK200331 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Apr 79 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, left New Delhi for Washington early this morning to attend the meeting of the Indo-U.S. Joint Commission. During his stay he is scheduled to call on President Carter, Secretary of State Vance, and many other prominent leaders. Besides having two rounds of talks with Mr Vance, he will also meet the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Mr Vajpayee is accompanied by the foreign secretary, Mr Jagat Mehta, and the secretary in the Department of Science and Technology, Mr Menon.

OPPOSITION LEADER THREATENS TO REVEAL CIA AGENTS

BK191740 Hong Kong AFP in English 1655 GMT 19 Apr 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, April 19 (AFP)--Opposition leader in Indian Parliament's lower house C.M. Stephen today promised to make sensational revelations as to who were the real CIA agents in India.

Mr Stephen, belonging to the breakaway Congress Party of former Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi, made the promise at a press conference, countering the allegations made by former American Ambassador Daniel Moynihan in his recently published book "Dangerous Place" against Mrs Gandhi.

Mr. Moynihan claimed that the U.S. Government had given money twice in secret to the then ruling Congress Party of Mrs Gandhi, once to Mrs Gandhi herself, to prevent electoral victory of communists in Kerala and West Bengal States. Mrs Gandhi has firmly rejected the allegation.

Mr Stephen said he would reveal the names in the lower house during the proposed debate, probably next week. "Many respectable names will come out sufficiently wounded in the "Lok Sabah" (lower house) debate," he said. He described the allegations against Mrs. Gandhi as part of "the CIA conspiracy in India".

Mr. Stephen said the American Embassy in Delhi "deserves to be closed down" if it did not disown the "admission" made by Mr Moynihan that the United States had tried to manipulate the internal politics of India. He, however, hastened to add that he was not making a direct attack on the embassy or demanding its closure.

DESAI ASSURES CHRISTIANS MINORITY RIGHTS TO BE UPHELD

BK200031 Hong Kong AFP in English 1716 GMT 19 Apr 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 19 Apr (AFP)--Prime Minister Morarji Desai today assured a Christian delegation that minority rights would not be abridged in any legislation to be undertaken on religious freedom.

Mr. Desai advised the delegation, that called on him today, not to get worked up over the non-official freedom of religions bill now before Parliament.

The delegation, which was led by Catholic Archbiship Pimenta of Bombay, expressed its opposition to the bill. The bill was introduced by a member of Mr. Desai's ruling Janata Party.

The prime minister was reported to have assured the delegation that there was no possibility of the bill being adopted in its present form, but there might be another piece of legislation. However, care would be taken to see that the minority rights were not in any way abridged, he said.

Over 15 million Christians in India had been agitating over the bill, which the community believes would take away some of the fundamental rights.

PAKISTAN

PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN ON REELECTION

BK200848 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 20 Apr 79 BK

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has sent hearty felicitations and best wishes to Soviet President Brezhnev on his reelection as president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. The president has expressed confidence in the continued growth of the present friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union, which can play an important role in strengthening peace and stability in Asia and the whole world.

The president has also sent hearty felicitations and best wishes to Prime Minister Kosygin on his reelection as chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR. The president said the continued growth and strengthening of friendship and good neighborly relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union is a matter of satisfaction for us. He said he is confident that these mutually beneficial relations will develop further as a result of the joint efforts of both the governments and peoples of the two countries and will contribute to peace and security in the region and the world.

UN DELEGATE CRITICIZES BIG POWERS' NUCLEAR POLICIES

BK200333 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 20 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Pakistan has reiterated that establishment of a nuclear-free zone in south Asia is the best means of preventing nuclear proliferation at present.

Mr Jamshed Marker, leader of the Pakistan delegation to the UN Committee on Disarmament, told the committee yesterday that his country took an extremely serious view of the discriminatory practices of major powers in their treatment of various non-nuclear weapon states. He stated this during the committee debate on the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.

He said it seems incomprehensible that a country which has exploded a nuclear device, possesses capability to manufacture nuclear weapons--including plutonium reprocessing and uranium enrichment plants--and has rejected the application of international safeguards to its nuclear fuel cycle facilities should receive nuclear and other forms of assistance while, on the other hand, a country which has subjected its nuclear facilities to international inspection and has expressed its willingness to extend concrete mutual pledges for nonproliferation is to be denied even economic development assistance.

SRI LANKA

GANDHI REPORTEDLY DENIES STATEMENT ON U.S. INTERFERENCE

BK191415 Hong Kong AFP in English 0754 GMT 19 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Colombo, 19 Apr (AFP)--Former Indian prime minister Indira Gandhi has denied to the Sri Lankan high commissioner in New Delhi that at a public meeting she accused the United States of being responsible for the defeat of the last government in Sri Lanka, Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed said here today.

Mr. Hameed called local journalists and foreign correspondents to a special press conference today to announce Mrs Gandhi's denial. He said the government would not pursue the matter in view of Mrs Gandhi's denial.

Local newspapers had given wide publicity to a speech by Mrs Gandhi at a public meeting at Punch in the northern Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir on April 12 at which, according to agency reports, she was purported to have said that the United States was responsible for the ousting of her government and the governments in Sri Lanka and Pakistan in 1977.

At the general election in Sri Lanka in June 1977, the last government of former prime minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike suffered a humiliating defeat when the United National Party of Mr J.R. Jayewardene scored a resounding victory, winning 140 of the 163 seats in Parliament.

Mr Hameed said that when the reports appeared in the local press, on the instructions of President J.R. Jayewardene, he contacted the Sri Lankan high commissioner in New Delhi and asked him to meet Mrs Gandhi and verify from her whether she actually made the statement, and if so whether she would give evidence before a select committee composed of representatives of political parties in Sri Lanka's parliament.

He said the high commissioner, Mr Tikiri Banda Panabokke, had met Mrs Gandhi on April 16 and she had denied the statement.

The minister said according to Mrs Gandhi, what she had said was that "certain elements within and outside India had worked to contribute to her defeat and that she had observed this trend in other countries of our subcontinent."

She had said the only reference she had made to Sri Lanka was about the presidential commission inquiring into alleged abuses committed by the previous government.

Mr Hameed said Mrs Gandhi had also told the high commissioner that in some remote areas of India where she makes speeches reporters are not very bright and, therefore, she could easily be misreported.